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The TV-TS

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ISSUE 54

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EDITORIAL

By: Merissa Sherrill Lynn

(Merissa Sherrill Lynn)

INTRODUCTION

The following letter written by an ex-wife of a crossdresser seems a little too contrived to be real, but I love this letter. It highlights nearly every stereotypical hang-up society has concerning our people, and I have a difficult time passing up a good opportunity to expose those hang-ups. If the letter is in fact real, then the author appears to be frightened, insecure, angry, and perhaps asking for help (although it is more likely she simply wants to give us a piece of her mind). When the letter first appeared in Cross-Port's newsletter 'Inner View', Cathy wrote a sensitive response in a sincere attempt to help ease some of the author's pain. I praise Cathy for her effort. In fact I praise all the wonderful people in our community who care about those whose lives we touch. However, this editorial is not an attempt to help the author of the letter so much as it is an attempt to help all our people who care about others and all those people whose lives we touch. Therefore, my comments are not directed towards the author, but to you, the Tapestry reader.

I have numbered the letter's paragraphs because I find a serious problem in every paragraph (...nay, every sentence), and I want to respond to each problem separately.

THE LETTER

(The following letter was re-printed from "Inner View" Vol 5 No 6 June 1989, published by Cross-Port, P.O. Box 12701, Cincinnati, OH 45212. Subscription $18.00 per year.)

To Whomever Reads This!

(1) One thing must be understood. I am not a nut! I know about life and I have not always had it easy. I am a real female writing.

(2) Until recently I knew nothing of crossdressers; had never heard the term or anything. I have only been around normal men... men who weren't ashamed to be men. I'm not saying that men shouldn't cry or show emotion, because they should. But, how in hell is a woman going to look up to a man who looks like a sissy? If dressing as a woman is a job for entertainment, fine, but when it messes up a relationship or marriage (as well I know) how can it be good?

(3) Most men who crossdress get so wrapped up in what they are doing they don't give a damn about the women in their lives that they are hurting.

(4) If it was reversed and a woman went around with a beard or mustache and a hairy body and wanted to be a man would they understand? -- NO!

(5) Would you want to bleed every month and have cramps and also give birth and go through the pain? -- NO!

(6) Why can't men be happy with who they are? They need mental help and there should be a place where they can get it, because they are such sick people.

(7) If God had meant for everyone to be the same sex He would have made us that way.

(8) I have been divorced for a while now thanks to my ex-husband. Never again will a man ever touch me because you never know who's PERVERTED and who's not.

-- Thank you.

MY RESPONSE (by the numbers!)

#1: She denies being a nut. Quite often I find that when people find it necessary to deny something, they have a reason for finding it necessary to deny it. Most people who are self-assured, have self-respect and self-acceptance don't find it necessary to deny anything because what they think of themselves is important, not what someone else thinks. My reaction is, "Go ahead and be a Nut. You are never too old to have a happy childhood."

#2 (A): **(a)** In paragraph two she admits to her own ignorance concerning the crossdressing phenomena, and implies she has no interest in learning. Perhaps the greatest affliction to humankind is the fear of the unknown and those who are different, and the hatred and intolerance that fear breeds.

(b) She then goes on to say she's only been around "normal" men. She's trying to use the word "normal" like she would a gun. Obviously she hasn't learned that "normal" is a statistical average, and not a value judgment. In order for a person to be normal they have to be dead average. I'm not normal, and I'm thankful. Can you imagine a world where I was the norm? God have mercy on us all.

(c) In the same breath she then has the audacity to say, "men who aren't ashamed to be men!" Does that mean men who crossdress do so because they are ashamed to be men? Who's definition is she using to define what constitutes a "man"? John Wayne's? Her own? No one should be ashamed for being who and what they are (especially crossdressers and transsexuals), and no one (and I do mean no one) has to live up to someone else's idea of who and what they are supposed to be.

#2 (B): She then goes on to ask the question, "How in hell is a woman going to look up to a man who looks like a sissy?" What's a sissy? Are people who like to wear women's clothing sissies? Are women by definition sissies? Are sissies cowards? Weak? Courage and cowardice, as well as strength and weakness have no gender, and have no wardrobe.

Also, why should a woman have to look up to a man? Let's reverse the question. "How in hell is a man going to look up to a woman who must have a man to look up to?" The question may sound silly, but it isn't. What the question implies is that it is not necessary for men to "look up to" women, but it is necessary for women to "look up to men." My position is that **females should be equal partners in the world community, should have equal opportunity to be the best that they can be, and should not need a "man" to "look up to"**. As Gloria Steinem says, "A woman without a man is like a fish without a bicycle!"

The author's use of the term "look up to" is not the same as "respect". In fact at no time does she demonstrate any inclination towards respect for other people's differences or needs. Respect for other people's differences and needs is absolutely fundamental if we are going to be able to make those compromises necessary for us to live in peace and in harmony with each other, and to make our relationships work.

#2 (C): In the final sentence of paragraph two she blames the wreckage of her marriage on the crossdressing. She closed the door on respect, on understanding, on compassion, on compromises, her own responsibilities, on her own power, on everything that might have opened the doors to save their marriage, then blames the failure on the crossdressing. Crossdressing is not the problem. I say it again; crossdressing is not the problem. If a person thinks it is the problem, then that is the problem.

#3 (A): In paragraph three I'll admit there is a spark of truth. Many (not most) crossdressers really are so wrapped up in their private little trips that they really don't think about their wives' needs. However, the reverse is also true; many wives (as amply demonstrated by this letter) are so dominated by their own hang-ups that they really don't think about their husbands' needs.

#3 (B): I have five rules for a successful marriage:

(1) Both parties must understand that crossdressing is not in and of itself the problem. Crossdressing is rewarding for the person so inclined and hurts no one. If there is a problem, the root of the problem lies elsewhere.

(2) Both parties must want their marriage to succeed. If either party doesn't really want a successful marriage then the marriage is going to be a rocky one at best.

(3) Both parties must be willing to work for it. Too often people will say, "yes I want my marriage to work", but they want their spouse to do all the work.

(4) Both parties must be willing to love each other (whether they feel like it or not), and to respect each other's needs and feelings. Without that love and respect the marriage doesn't have a chance (except as a marriage of convenience.) Notice I did not say "understanding". I did not say "understanding" because unless someone is able to think with another person's mind or feel with another person's heart, no one can really "understand". Besides, "understanding" is not necessary to make a marriage work, but love and respect are.

(5) Both parties must be willing to make those compromises necessary in order to live in peace and in harmony with one another.

Now let's see how these five rules relate to the author of the letter. First, she is perfectly happy to blame her wrecked marriage on her husband's crossdressing. (That excludes rule #1.) Second, at no time in her letter did she indicate any interest in saving her marriage. (That excluded rule #2.) Third, she obviously was not willing to put out any effort to save it. (That excludes rule #3.) It doesn't sound like love, or respect, or even understanding ever crossed the lady's mind; only her own sense of hurt and willingness to make her husband the scapegoat. (That excludes rule #4.) Fifth, compromises were simply out of the question. (That excludes rule #5.) Her

marriage was doomed, with or without the crossdressing factor.

#4: In paragraph four she tried to reverse the situation and asked the question, " If a woman went around with a beard and wanted to be a man, would we understand?" No, we wouldn't understand, but that's not important. No one can really understand anyone. What is important is that we care about each other and respect each other's differences and needs.

The question then is not "Would we understand?", but "Would we love them, and respect their needs, and accept them into our community, into our family?" The answer is an unequivocal YES!!! In fact we are begging for females who are so inclined to come and join us.

(I don't think that response to her question was quite what the author had in mind.)

#5: There are a few males (myself included) who already experience somewhat of a menstrual cycle, and would give anything to be able to give birth. Other than my unique situation, the question "Do you want to bleed every month, have cramps, and experience the pain of birth?" is just plain silly. How many females would want prostate problems, or be condemned to a shorter life expectancy because of their sex? How many human beings of either sex voluntarily choose pain and discomfort of any kind? (I know a few, but that's another issue.)

Please forgive the knee-jerk nature of my response... I know the lady's intent was to highlight the unpleasant side of being female. My problem is, why would she want to highlight the unpleasant side of being female, when being female is not the issue? (Granted, there are people (like myself) who would love to be female, and have a deep powerful sense of envy for those who were lucky enough to be born female. However, people like me are rare.) The issue is crossdressing, not transsexualism (unless her ex was transsexually inclined, but she never said so). People crossdress because it's a turn-on, because it's fun, because it feels good. People crossdress because it's a wonderful escape, a coping device, because it broadens their experiential/spiritual horizons. People crossdress for any number of reasons, but being female is not one of them.

Again, for people who enjoy crossdressing, being female is not the issue. For those of us who would prefer to be female, crossdressing is not the issue.

#6 (A): Finally, a sentence with which I can agree. "Why can't men be happy with who they are?" ABSOLUTELY! Everyone has the right to happiness. It says so in our Bill of Rights. If a person is a crossdresser, or transsexually inclined, he or she has the right to be happy, and can be proud of who and what he or she is.

It needs to be stated once again. No one, not society, not the author of the letter, has the right or the ability to tell anyone else who and what they are.

#6 (B): Ahhh, finally we get to my favorite sentence... "They need mental help because they are such sick people!" I'm not sure if the lady intended to be cruel, or if she really believed what she said. Either way she is a very frightening woman. Hatred and intolerance are sick. Bigotry is sick. Cruelty is sick. Crossdressing is not sick.

I have three standard responses to those people who call me sick:

(1) I know I am not sick, and what **I** think of me is important, not what somebody else thinks of me.

(2) Suppose I am sick. I am also a happy and productive human being and crossdressing keeps me that way; so God bless my illness.

(3) Sickness is a disease, a dis-ease. I am not the one who is dis-eased with who and what I am!

#7 (A): The first thing that grabs my attention in this sentence is the author assigned God a gender. "He"? "God the Father"? "The Lord"? "King of kings?" As long as we conceive of God as a man is as long as we will have a religiously induced masculine superiority complex. This religious masculine superiority complex is **the** primary roadblock to achieving human equality and peace of mind. **GOD HAS NO GENDER!!!** The sooner we all understand that, the better off we all will be.

(A favorite fantasy of mine to highlight the masculine/feminine discrepancy is going to the Sistine Chapel and giving God a shave and a pretty dress. Do you think anyone would understand the message?)

Could it be the author also suffers from a masculine superiority complex? Could that complex be a primary reason for her inability to respect her ex-husband's need to crossdress, or her need to have a man to "look up to"?

#7 (B): The second thing that grabs my attention is the sentence itself. "If God had meant for everyone to be the same sex He would have made us that way." What does **that** mean? That makes as much sense to me as, "If God had meant for people to fly She would have given us wings." And, "If God had meant for us to shave She would have given us sharper fingernails." And, "If God had meant for us to eat cold food She would not have invented the microwave."

Obviously the lady believes in a thinking, moralistic, vengeful and masculine God. I think she's wrong, but I do not intend to rattle her theological cage. I fully support her right to believe anything she wants to believe **so** long **as her faith works for her, and she respects my right** to not **believe it**. After all, faith is intended to be a beneficial servant to people. Sadly, in her case it appears that her faith does not work for her. It seems to have handicapped her and blinded her, and keeps her from experiencing God's love.

#8 (A): Paragraph eight is the most upsetting of them all. In it she blames her ex-husband for her misery. By implication she denies all responsibility. God, save us from the martyrs! She's miserable and it's her husband's fault. Well, it isn't her husband's fault. Everyone is the architect of their own life. Everyone is responsible for their

own selves, and has the right to choose. She chose intolerance, I choose tolerance. She chose misery, I choose happiness. She chose hatred, I choose love. She chose to blame her husband, I choose to blame myself. Who is right?

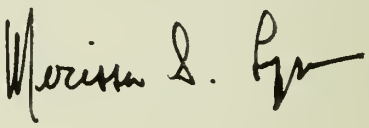
#8 (B): She finishes her letter with this statement, "Never again will a man ever touch me because you never know who's PERVERTED and who's not." Does she mean to say that because her ex was a crossdresser, she's never going to let anyone ever touch her again? Oh please! What does she consider a "pervert", anyone who is not "normal" according to her definition of "normal"? How would she have reacted if her husband was a down and dirty sadist, or a hopeless dribbling drunk who beat her up every night and twice on Saturdays? Her husband was a crossdresser. So what?

CONCLUSION

Normally I would have ended my editorial with the last paragraph, but I let an unnamed member of our staff read it. Now she's wandering about our office with her fist in the air yelling, "Right on! She reminds me of my ex-wife; crucify her, hang her from the rafters, boil her in oil!" Good heavens! Boiling her in oil was never my intent. If the person who wrote the letter is in fact real, then what we have is a woman in pain, a person in extraordinary need of healing (very much like the unnamed member of our staff). She shares one thing in common with the rest of us; she is a human being, and like the rest of us she deserves to be able to give and to receive love and respect. Also, like the rest of us, she deserves to be happy, to have peace of mind, and to be in harmony with herself, her family, her community, and her God.

My objective was not to crucify her, but to tear down the roadblocks and open the doors to the healing process. In our community we have many wonderful people, loving and caring people who would be more than willing to help her (or anyone) with that healing process.

-- My love to you all,



FEELINGS AND EMOTIONS ENHANCE THE EXPERIENCE

By: Wendi Pierce

After returning from a recent national event I took some time to reflect on the occurrences at the event and how the people there affected me. One observation I made was that many people seemed to exhibit a decidedly male persona while visually having the appearance of a female. It struck me as being rather strange that while these people were going to such extremes to emulate women, they were not trying to exhibit feminine social traits or even feminine mannerisms. I realize that for some people clothes are the main item which satisfies the majority of their cross-gender desires. However, by only creating a visual image these people are ignoring much that might be gained from the exploration of their cross-gender desires.

Appearance has two significant aspects. It creates both an internal and an external environment for us to build on. By internal I mean that when we have on a certain wardrobe we set an internal stage upon which to explore ourselves. Our appearance, as we perceive it, sets the mood for us. If we do not follow through with actions and mannerisms that fit the perception we have of our appearance, we are creating internal confusion and possibly insecurity. Externally, we are creating a confusing situation for those with whom we interact. They see a feminine image and are triggered to assume that the person they are dealing with is indeed feminine. If the actions and personality of the person they start to interact with do not match the visual image, they become confused, unsettled and even mistrustful. This can lead them towards retreating into a defensive and possibly even abusive position in respect to this confusing person.

When in a situation such as being at a national event or even just a local group gathering, we are all presented with an ideal situation. We can, if we choose, explore facets of our personality and inner selves never exposed. We can even create a new persona from scratch, a persona which has traits we have always felt would be nice to exhibit, but never had the courage or know-how to incorporate into our "normal" selves. This persona, a new self, can actually be a testing ground for traits that we desire to "try on", much like the clothes we experiment with. Therefore, if we let ourselves, we can actually try on new personality traits as well as create a different and desirable physical appearance.

What are some traits that we might choose to explore? One might be being close to others outside our family. This is something that many people never do. Instead they seem to construct a low wall between themselves and others in a social situation. They then peer above this wall with caution exposing themselves and their ideas sparingly to others. They sometimes choose to show very little of themselves and only speak of their various possessions or accomplishments. When two such persons get together, it sometimes becomes a contest. Each offers an item up to the other in turn seemingly trying to top that last offered by the other. Neither walks away from the conversation with any real gains. Each has done nothing but feed his own ego. In order for a person to walk away with any real gains from an interaction with someone else, there needs to be a true freedom and passage of information without this "over the wall" concept present. Feelings need to be expressed, emotions need to be present.

Getting to know someone and letting them get to know us, really know us, can be a very rewarding experience. Also, comparing notes at an emotional level, rather than at a physical level opens doors within ourself too. Someone once said to me that our feelings and emotions are never formalized, that is gel, until we have expressed them to someone else. This verbalization seems to place the thought into perspective and also, to bring other deeper thoughts to the surface. Therefore, interaction with someone else at an emotional or feelings level can be an enlightening experience for us. Sometimes it's an interesting experience to actually verbalize thoughts that are kind of "in process", thoughts that we have been mulling around inside but are not quite sure of. We might even preface the conversation with the constraint that we aren't sure about such-and-such but the following has been running through our mind. This lets the other person know that we are using this interaction as a chance to explore our own inner thoughts.

How does one advance to this level of communication with a new acquaintance? How does a conversation between strangers or at least casual acquaintances move into a deeper "feelings and emotions" level? Well, it only takes one of the people to start by first asking a question of the other like, "I feel .... about....., how do you feel?" Once the conversation changes directions to each's feelings, the stage is set and other discussions of feelings and emotions can easily follow.

A word should be said about replies to another's feelings. First of all, there is no right or wrong when it comes to feelings. We may not agree with another person's feelings, but we must remember that the feelings that person is stating are based on several things. Some of these things are very deep seated. They could be religious, moral, or social teachings that have been reinforced for years and years. Therefore, it is not advisable, or in any way advantageous to criticize another person's feelings. It

(Wendi Danielle Pierce, Chrprsn, IFGE Board of Directors)

is, however, possible at times to follow another person's statement of their feelings with a statement of our own. This should not be done to antagonize but merely to present either reinforcing or alternative views on a subject. Confrontation is not the goal of such a conversation, exploration and gaining insight into an "inner person" is.

Once a discussion of feelings is in progress, emotions will probably also become apparent. Most of us have been brought up never to show many emotions. Our range of "public" emotions is usually limited to happiness, anger, and mild sadness. Emotions such as fear, tearful sadness, tenderness, and love are not expressed in public. The "experimentation" into feelings can be extended into a chance to express emotions not previously part of our public self. If emotions seem to be coming toward the surface along with inner feelings, it might be possible if in a friendly and caring environment, to let these emotions surface. The release of emotions long locked inside can bring down barriers and allow us to grow emotionally. The experience can also release tremendous amounts of internal tension so well concealed

that we ourselves did not realize how strong it was nor how much it was influencing our behavior.

The key here is to express our emotions with moderation and when truly appropriate. Emotions expressed at the wrong time can create a situation for us that can become very uncomfortable. Crying in public, for example is acceptable in certain situations, but not in others. This is not to say that we should never cry in public, quite the contrary. If we are overcome with grief or are greatly saddened by an experience, crying is an acceptable expression of this emotion. Crying would not normally be acceptable when merely disappointed or frustrated.

When in the presence of someone else expressing a strong emotion such as deep grief, empathy and the expression of care and concern should be exhibited. If the person is in the process of exploring their emotions, we may have to take on the roll of caretaker should the other person be overcome with emotion. Remember, we are the audience to others in the group and need to help them just as they should help us to learn and grow.

In conclusion, I would like to state that we have nothing to loose by experimenting with both feelings and emotions when in an alternate gender situation. Actually we have much to gain, but the proof is actually to try it ourselves and see what happens. With that I'll close this discussion with a familiar line, GO FOR IT, and see for yourself.

- END -

JOLYNNE WHITE, #3

SHAME

Have you ever asked yourself, "Why isn't this getting any easier for me? What is it that's keeping me from fully accepting and loving myself?" You could be experiencing shame about yourself and not know it. Sure, you may be aware of feeling guilty from time to time; but Shame? It's not something people talk about, even though we all experience it at some level. I'm writing to share my insights and feelings pertaining to shame; what it is, how you may have hidden from it, and how you can heal yourself from it.

Healthy shame is a normal emotion that tells us of our limits and is part of each person's personal power. By knowing our limits, we don't waste energy trying to reach unrealistic goals or change things over which we have no control. This healthy shame also lets us know we are not God, so it can serve as the psychological ground of our humility. However, shame can become more than an emotion. It can take over your identity, making you feel flawed and defective. Once that occurs, the shame becomes toxic.

Toxic shame hides behind many faces and masks so it can be difficult to recognize. It's far easier to admit to feeling guilty than feeling shame. One of the pervasive qualities of toxic shame deals with isolation and feeling alone. Not only do you not want anyone else to know of your feelings about yourself, you don't want to know about them either; which is why it's such a slow process to get at the core issues of your feelings of self-worth. You

(JoLynne White)

can do such a great job at blanking out unpleasant experiences in your memory banks that it won't be easy for you to go back and uncover the roots of this shame. You may be too traumatized to deal with them even though you've had years of therapy under your belt.

If you are unwilling to dig deeper into your psyche and face whatever comes up, it may be very difficult for you to learn more about why you are the way you are. It will be especially difficult if you are keeping skeletons in your closet, not wanting to deal with them, pretending they don't exist, thinking they will go away. If you try to hide them or deny them they do NOT go away. They only go away through your acceptance of them!

The sources of your shame can include emotional abandonment, self-alienation and isolation, dysfunctional family rules, perfectionism and rationalism. These issues interweave with each other over the years to form a prison of shame keeping you from seeing the person you are capable of becoming.

Emotional abandonment can occur at a very early age, perhaps because of a perceived loss of parental affection, or a lack of mirroring (someone who is there for him or her that reflects who they really are at a given point in time). In the first three years of life children need to be admired, listened to, held, and touched. They need a face to mirror and affirm their feelings, needs, and drives. If these needs are ignored, children begin to believe their needs aren't important and they lose a sense of value about themselves. Then, every time the child approaches his or her parents for attention and doesn't get it, the child may experience some level of shame for bothering them, and place an invisible veil of unworthiness over themselves.

Self-alienation occurs when you feel disconnected from parts of yourself. John Bradshaw, in his book Healing the Shame That Binds You points out clearly how shame evolves this way:

> "...if you were never allowed to express anger in your family, your anger becomes an alienated part of yourself. You experience toxic shame when you feel angry. This part of you must be disowned or severed. There is no way to get rid of your emotional power of anger. Anger is the self-preserving and self-protecting energy. Without this energy you become a doormat and a people pleaser. As your feelings, needs, and drives are bound by toxic shame, more and more of you is alienated."

Each time your anger is repressed, another veil of shame covers you, creating more of a cover so you won't have to look at yourself with contempt.

If you want people to like you and accept you, people-pleasing can become a way of life. It is harder to be honest about yourself than it is to be dishonest, and put up a false facade to others. The fear is if you tell others who you really are, they may not like you and that's all you have to offer. What a scary thought! The fear of abandonment is so great you'd tell people what they want to hear so they wouldn't leave you, not realizing you completely abandon yourself in the process. It takes considerable time and personal work to realize these others might be wrong and you might be okay. Even better yet, no one is wrong, we are each seeing reality from different points of view and sometimes what one person wants is incompatible with what the other wants.

In issue #53 of the Tapestry I discussed the family rules that teach us to deny who we really are. They also generate feelings of toxic shame for people who cannot, because they are human, follow them all the time. These rules of control, perfectionism, blame, no talking, and the denial of the five freedoms act as a cover-up for shame. The five freedoms deal with the power to perceive, to think and interpret, to feel, to want and choose, and the power to imagine. Because of these rules you can grow up believing you are wrong and unworthy all the time because you can't live up to these impossible standards. It might never occur to you these rules might be wrong! It's the same as believing there's something wrong with a man wanting to wear women's clothing. Just because society makes you feel it's bad to crossdress does NOT make society right! People impose rules on us to make THEM feel more comfortable with their own insecurities.

This is where the issue of control comes into play again. Someone feeling inner shame tries to control others so they won't know who that person really is. Others respond to this control by giving in, denying their own feelings and thus develop their own sense of shame. They in turn may try to control others and the circle goes round, and round, and round...

With shame comes the loss of selfhood. There's no inner life. Happiness is found on the outside. This leads to distorted thinking. "I'll be okay if I stuff my feelings with food, sex, alcohol, drugs, crossdressing." "Things will get better when I get that new job, have more money, work harder." This type of thinking leads to mental obsession about wanting to feel better. As the stress level increases and we find no outlet, not knowing how to make ourselves feel good from within, we usually succumb to "**acting out**." Once we have that drink, or drug, or dress in women's clothing, we feel shame. "I'm no good" begins to play over and over like a broken record in our heads. We may even promise ourselves not to engage in the behavior again. Once the stress or anxiety level gets to an uncomfortable point, we again start looking for some signs of relief and the cycle begins again.

American schools show a definite bias in educating the mind instead of the whole person. The emphasis is placed on reasoning, logic, and math, with little or no concern for emotions, intuition and creativity. We become excellent at memorizing and conforming instead of expressing ourselves creatively. If we had any intuitive thoughts and shared them, we would be put down, feeling ashamed for "being different."

The sex role scripts we are brought up to accept show inflexibility and fail to allow for completion and wholeness. Rigid role standards, not including both masculine and feminine qualities for each person, shame

our contrasexual parts. Men are shamed for embracing their vulnerability and intuition; women are considered aggressive when they become assertive and act through their masculine side.

THE WAY OUT OF SHAME

The first step for healing your shame is awareness. The second step involves acceptance, while the third deals with action. Action takes place when you come out of hiding and reveal your feelings to others. Something wonderful happens each time this occurs; a sense of "I'm not alone! There are countless others who feel the same way." You can gain a great deal by attending meetings where you can be honest about who you are. This is why support groups such as Tri-Ess and Renaissance are so important.

Another process that heals this shame stems from learning to recognize the different parts of yourself that have been split off, such as the angry bitch, the perfectionistic judge, the controlling queen, and the fearful little girl. Instead of denying these parts, embrace them and ask how each one has served you. The element that may surprise you is that each of your "negative" parts developed from a sense of fear; fear of abandonment and loss of control. What you may realize is that you have the ability to nurture all these aspects of yourself so you don't have to rely on others to fill you up from the outside. Your goal then is to have a close intimate relationship with yourself. Only then can you be truly intimate with others. This comes from externalizing the voices in your head, creating an inner healing circle with those voices and making peace with them.

Your increased awareness of what it is you want for yourself as a person, not what others want, can lead you to be more aware of which types of interpersonal situations will trigger your feelings of shame. For example, when you meet someone who wants to become friends, ask yourself if this person is going to help or hinder you in feeling better about yourself. Is there acceptance and understanding? Is there mutual sharing on various levels? How do you feel intuitively? Can you express your anger and feel safe? How does a person respond when you ask for what you want? Are your boundaries respected?

The last thing on the list deals with your learning to handle your mistakes and having the courage to be imperfect. This is a big one for most people. Even if your need to control others has diminished significantly, you may still act as a drill instructor to yourself. It's only through doing all the other activities listed previously that you can let up on yourself every once in a while. After all, you didn't become a shame-based person overnight. It seems unrealistic to think you can change overnight. Recovery and healing is a slow process. You move at your own pace, trying not to compare yourself with others. You are exactly where you are supposed to be today. Sure, you may make a mistake or feel badly about yourself, but it won't be as bad as it was before. Your healing happens in small steps, one at a time.

Sometimes you may see where you forgot to remember where you came from. When you do, the realization can be astounding! You are no longer hiding behind the masks and false fronts. Instead, you share who you are, share your fears and vulnerabilities, and are constantly blessed with the responses that show you have value merely because you are alive.

- END -

Feeling Female is a State of Mind

It has nothing to do with gender. We all have **masculine** and **feminine** energies within us. When we give free rein to *both* of these energies they can operate in balance and harmony--and we can be at peace.

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If you wish, I can also help you to create a healthier balance between your masculine and feminine energies. I offer phone consultations as well as personal appointments.

Please call me to arrange an initial interview.

J.L. White
New York, New York
212-807-6798

WHERE HAVE WE BEEN? WHERE ARE WE GOING?

By: Sheila Kirk

(The following keynote address was delivered by Dr. Sheila Kirk during the 7th annual "Be-All You Want To Be" Weekend, held in Chicago, June 10, 1989.)

My dear sisters, my friends and guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Several months ago when Naomi Owen called and asked me to speak to you, I felt great pride and privilege and I answered a confident "Yes" immediately. After our conversation and after hanging up, I thought about this for a time - then I began to shake. I felt uneasy and began to doubt - to almost regret that I had accepted such an extraordinary opportunity. I wondered what message I could bring to such a sensitive and perceptive audience such as you. What could I possibly tell you? What possible stimulus could I be in your experience of this remarkable weekend much less as an influence in our special way of life?

Not a day went by that I didn't give thought to this. Often I would dream in the night that I had written a talk, but on awakening the memory of it - the remembrance of what I had said - was gone. I dreamt I said very impressive things, gave you phenomenal considerations, motivated you as no one had done before, but when I tried to reconstruct my thoughts I felt even more uneasy because I didn't know what I could possibly tell you that would have meaning and merit. At one point I thought of my own experiences and my journey through this mysterious and magical way of life. You know it's taken me a long time to come to the place where I can admit to my sisters that I am a physician. I have had great fear doing so! Then it became easy when I began to admit other things to myself - to accept myself - to become thrilled with the person that I am. In that realization I found that I had undergone an interesting journey -I looked at where I had been and where I was going and I was very happy with the realization of it all.

I think that it would be of value to ask you to take such a journey with me - almost like a trip on a time machine something like that of H. G. Wells, but with our own adaptations. I ask you to accompany me to the past and then to the future, to recall and then forecast together, meaningful things that we all have experienced and that we all may take part in. The time machine is an imaginative effort - in fact, only those two questions that we will ask, are its construction.

(Sheila Kirk)

Where have we been? Where are we going?

Two questions that are like islands of memory and prediction with ourselves as the bridge in the here and now linking the two! Where have we been? And, where are we going? To these two questions, let me attach a bit more. Where have we been by ourselves and in the company of others? Where are we going alone and in unison?

Who is here today that does not remember the dark and deep closet they came from? As we talk to each other at meetings, at socials, in restaurants or lounges, we each have a similar story to relate - early feelings and beginnings that are so remarkably alike in so many details. Who among us was not so deep in their closet and facing the wrong way that to take a step forward meant crashing into the back wall? Who among us was not so fearful to turn around and face the door that if we did turn around we did so with our eyes closed - so as not to see the light coming from under the door? We hesitated to reach out to touch the door knob, to open the door, if only just a crack - just to look out! And how many of us on opening the door,

only a little - closed it quickly and tightly and sealed it for a time with fear and guilt and ignorance? We knew only ourselves in the dark - and not too well even at that. We never dreamed that there were others outside who had the same longings and feelings. We were frightened to death that discovery and ridicule and embarrassment were only a breath away. We had guilt for what we were doing - fear of what it implied - frustration at our inability to put it aside in spite of our purges and promises to ourselves that we would not dress again! We were ignorant of the causes and motivations. We only knew of the drive that came from down deep within us - and the joy of it and the low when it was completed - and we didn't know where we were heading or what was in the future.

Slowly, gradually, we grew and matured in our ability to come to an acceptance of ourselves. We developed our skills - we dressed with more taste and more consciousness. We learned about make-up, about hair care. We cultivated more of our feminine characteristics. We became more aware of the female within us - and in time did not suppress or discourage it. In fact - we grasped the door knob, pushed open the door, slowly perhaps but then surely, emerged into the bedroom, through the hall to the front door - then out that door into the sunshine of the world outside. And then - and then we went into the complex and sometimes challenging, yet ever so gratifying existence of being - in public. We reached out along the way. We wrote letters, joined clubs, found others of our persuasion, moved gingerly into the straight community and here today - here we sit having lunch in the O'Hare Plaza Hotel as women. All of us have walked in the lobby, sat in the restaurants, gone to the meeting rooms, and used the elevators. We are walking in the streets outside to shop - we are in the world, and we are confident, and we are joyous. We have done all this principally on our own. It's true that what we observed, what we read, and the help and support of others in and outside our culture has been there to influence us. But, we have always advanced because we chose to do so and by our own decision and effort. Think of that -- we did it ourselves because of the gradually increasing need within us to reach out.

Now to ask again that first question - where have we been? - and to then apply it to others in conference with us, our clubs and organizations. Some interesting information comes to light when we research it a little. Merissa Sherrill Lynn in a speech given at the most recent Tiffany Awards Banquet in Boston, told of the very beginning of a group in 1975 - under the name of Cherrystone. There were seven original members - meeting in a private home - never going out of that setting and for the longest time fearful to expand or even attract others. That group in time divided, one part becoming the Outreach Institute, another part becoming the Mayflower Society, and eventually in 1978, the Tiffany Club came into being - but they were functioning by and large in a somewhat larger closet. In the 1960's Virginia Prince began publishing literature for the community to read and take instruction from, and in the late 60s a Sorority, Phi Pi Epsilon, was functioning with countrywide membership but with its impetus mainly on the west coast. This society had far more reach and was very successful under the guidance of Virginia Prince and when the society for the second self, Tri Ess, came into being, there was more impact and more outreaching than ever before. But of other organizations there were perhaps only about 18 or 20 in the early to mid 70s. They existed for themselves - they sought no alliance with other groups. There was no unity of purpose. They were known somewhat to each other but there was little direct or planned contact or cooperation. If they had newsletters or written communication, there was no attempt to share them or to mail to other clubs. A few scattered mini-conventions or social weekends came into existence - Dream, Shangri-La. The one notable event that was to prosper was Fantasia Fair under the guidance of Ariadne Kane in Provincetown beginning 15 years ago but even that was provincial and limited for some time.

But now look at our picture in 1989! In the United States there are now 152 organizations and clubs known who are composed of the transgendered community. In Canada, there are 15 such groups. There are groups in England, in Europe, in Asia, in South Africa, with more emerging on a regular basis. Many of these groups have publications which are exchanged with many other clubs. There are some very ambitious publications available to the entire community in this country with very extensive mailings - i.e. The Tapestry, Our Sorority, and Tania Volen Publications to name only a few. Clubs in different parts of our country boast memberships in the hundreds - i.e. ETVC of San Francisco, Chi Chapter of Chicago, Tiffany Club of New England, and the Renaissance Club of Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Many smaller groups of perhaps only twenty or less members have become active and open to the community and even publish instruction and guidance to their members and information of national interest. Members of one club often belong to other organizations and travel to several meetings each month. There are mini conventions throughout the year, i.e. The Boulton & Park Texas T-Party, the Tiffany Spring Weekend, Chi Chapter's Holiday En Femme, Fantasia Fair, the Pocono Weekends only to cite a few - and this very convention, the "Be All You Want To Be" Weekend, sponsored by five clubs. Organizations are having meetings in public places, planning special outings, and parties in public facilities. Committees from various clubs go to the management of large hotels and contract for special events with generous help and eager cooperation from the managements --- the Ramada Inns and the Sheraton chain to mention only two.

Another huge step forward has been the advent of an organization that just recently completed its third annual convention, the International Foundation for Gender Education. This organization functions to serve the entire transgendered community with prejudice to none and to

promote liaison and rapport between all groups in this growing community. It publishes a well thought-out and executed magazine - The Tapestry. It gives a platform for exchange between all of us, and with the newly formed congress of representatives it will improve remarkably the rapport and meaningful sharing between clubs. In short - it gives strength to the entire community, and to our culture, and thereby to each of us as individuals. We are growing, my dear friends, and maturing not only on an individual basis but as a thriving network - not only as special single human beings but as a vigorous energetic community with very special attributes and contributions.

What then is the answer to our second question - where are we going? From almost any perspective - we are going forward. Even wearing heels, we are not taking mincing steps. We have an enthusiastic gait, a stride that's feminine but determined and with purpose. As individuals we only have to look at ourselves here today. Look at our tasteful fashions, our hair and make-up. Look where we are in a very public setting - a large lovely hotel. We have been in the very nerve center of this city - we face the world with openness and bright faces. We are confident and comfortable. We will by our very attitude give confidence and comfort to those who are not quite in the same place. We will encourage them by our attitude, our experiences, our outstretched hand, to follow - if not to walk beside us. Each of us is a messenger - perhaps even a missionary. We carry a wonderful text to our sisters who still hesitate at the closet door. The message is - "It's all right - you don't need to be afraid - the 'straight' world doesn't understand but they're beginning to accept and acceptance is the best thing to have." We are then instructors to those who, in our community, are down further on the ladder. But what about instruction to the "straight" community?

There are those in this room today who give our message to the world on an almost daily basis. These are individuals who appear dressed on television talk shows, in school classrooms, before even police audiences and other public organizations to give their own history and the meaning of crossdressing as they know it to be. Our explanations may sometimes fall a little short because there is much we don't understand about ourselves, but to enlighten and expand the minds of these groups and thereby gain acceptance of us all is their goal. It is a remarkable challenge which they meet head on and with glowing success. These girls are filled with courage to go to a university and speak before 60 or 70 college students - students who have curious and enquiring minds and a "prove it to me" attitude - and walk away from them having won their approval and respect. We congratulate them for their phenomenal efforts.

There are those in this room who have written and published a great deal about crossdressing - monographs and books not only for the instruction and guidance of those in our culture but for the information and insight of professionals and the reading public outside our sphere. Publications that show everyone that we are sharing caring human beings who live generally quite ordinary lives in many modes of endeavor. We work at many different occupations. We raise families, build homes and live in them, pay our taxes and eat ice cream. We do the things that everyone in this city and in this country does. They show that we have the same color of blood and when we bleed, that our hearts carry the same sentiments (perhaps with a little more feeling), that we suffer the same ailments, and recover from colds as do others, and that we come in all shoe sizes. These publications are giving valuable insight to the realization that we are not abnormal - we do not have psychic disturbance, we are rational, thinking, reasonable, and accomplished.

There are television productions and movies and stage plays that deal with transvestism and transgenderism. These productions are not always presented in the instructional way we want, but they often do give account and insight into what and who we are. There is more room here for accuracy and correct statements, and this is an area where more of our concentration is needed. However, all that I mention shows that our own people and those allied with us are reaching out to enlighten associates, relatives, and neighbors who are uninformed. They are giving portrayal of us all, and that, in time, gains acceptance for us all.

This is where we are going. We are going in a direction that is right and correct - to give knowledge and gain acceptance. We must always be on guard that the information we give, the impressions we create, the lasting picture - is the correct one. Hence we must always have informed and talented people carrying our banners. This is why a speakers bureau has been created in IFGE - to insure accurate dissemination of information. This is why an IFGE publications committee exists - to help put meaningful literature before the public. At this very time I know of three studies that are in their inception under the guidance of experienced researchers within our community. These studies deal with important questions in our culture.

The first is a study of teenage crossdressing. It is a prospective study which intends to sample information from teenagers and their parents, and examine what they are experiencing.

The second is a study of long term hormonal therapy in the TV and TS population - a biochemical follow-up on a long term basis.

The third is a study of alcoholism in the TV and TS community - what is the impact and ramifications - cause and effect.

These are weighty topics - not to be taken lightly. The information gained over a period of time will have impact

on the members of our community and help to establish guidelines for professionals. You can see by the nature of these projects that we are not just concerned with whether our bras are pink or black, but rather, we are looking toward basic information of who and what we are - and why.

In the very last analysis of what really is important is the individual -- you! You must be allowed to grow. You must not be stifled by others or inhibit yourself. You must give to yourself the opportunity to go in the direction you choose, without offense to others in your life or to the public trust. It has been said quite accurately, "There is only one success - to be able to spend your life in your own way." If in living life as you choose, you do better and better things for yourself, then in all ways - not only in our culture, but also as a traveler in this world - you are a success. If along the way you give help and support to others, not only our sisters, but every human being who travels beside you or, alas, behind you, you are even more of a success.

I want to give you a little formula that is helpful to keep in mind. It embraces the questions we have asked - especially the question of where we are going. Using this little guide can make our futures more golden and joyful. What makes each of us more joyous in ourselves makes our community prosper as well.

Remember the following letters and what each of them should remind you of:

F - **Friendship** - to offer a friendship that is always sincere and giving.
E - **Energy** - to put your thoughts and activities to their best use.
M - **Magnetism** - to cultivate the properties of attraction and charm.
A - **Appreciation** - to acknowledge those who give their help to you.
L - **Love** - to reach out with loyalty and respect.
E - Emulate - to select what is right for you in other lives and make it a part of your life as well.

You will see readily that the letters F-E-M-A-L-E spell the word "female" - a state of mind and body we all aspire to and work toward, and, as I look at all of you, have grasped so comfortably and well.

Keep in mind that we are all in evolution - not at destination. We have much to do and to accomplish. Perhaps that small memory aid may help us all accomplish our goals.

In conclusion, let me point out an example of accomplishment that I have observed here at this convention that astounds and delights me. Samuel Johnson said to his biographer Boswell, "Adversity introduces human beings to themselves." Here in this room there is a woman who has accomplished so much and shares it with us. She has known adversity, and still knows it, but who shows us so beautifully what it means to accomplish, despite mishap and obstruction. Let me introduce you to Ginger. Would you kindly stand, Ginger, and let us applaud you and congratulate you. Your remarkable example teaches us that everything is possible with determination and inspiration. By this time you have met many of your sisters. Before you leave Chicago, you will have held each and everyone's hand and have known their embrace. Congratulations to you in coming here to be with us.

My dear sisters and friends - once again, where have we been? And, where are we going? Go in love and in peace!

- END -

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TAPESTRY MAILBAG

The Great Toilet Debate,
A Personal Experience:

Dear Editor,

Recently the ladies loo has been the source of hot debate... who should or shouldn't use it, when and how. The only consensus reached was there was no consensus. It turns out that "toilet" is just another knee-jerk word (like "liberal", "commie", "queer", and "God") that the mere mention of it can negate reason, incite flaming passions, and blind sexual chauvinism. What happened to good old common sense? It's against the law for males to use the ladies room, and probably should remain against the law because of the safety factor (muggers, rapists, etc.). That means if a male uses the ladies room he takes his chances. However, if he is crossdressed and he's gotta go, the path of least resistance is usually through the ladies room. If he takes care of his appearance and exercises good manners and common sense, there should be no problem. In other words, don't use it if you don't have to, and if you have to, be good!

Now I have a toilet story. I'm usually crossdressed, which means when I'm in public I usually use the ladies room, and have never had a problem... except for last fall. I was in NYC visiting a friend. It was a lovely autumn afternoon and we decided to take a walk through Central Park. The leaves were turning, the birds were singing, the squirrels were chattering, and the buildings were falling down (but that's another story). After a delightful afternoon of feeding ducks and watching the NYC wildlife, I needed to go to the bathroom. Little did I know the bathroom I chose to use was also being used by a movie company, and the whole area was infested with security guards with big whistles.

I confidently walked into the ladies room, selected my stall, and went about my business. I was at peace, enjoying a moment of celestial contentment, when suddenly... all HELL broke loose! The stalls rattled with the sounds of screeching whistles and a woman with the voice of a cement truck screaming, "Man in the bathroom, man in the bathroom!"

My heart went through the commode. "Sh--, I've been caught," I thought to myself. "Where did I go wrong? No one gave me a second look when I came in... my feet are facing the proper direction... I'm making all the proper sounds..." Well, there was nothing left to do but resign myself to my fate. I finished my business, tucked everything in, continued to make all the proper sounds, then opened the stall. There before me were two huge cops and a little bitty lady hauling this greasy drunk out the door. Then the little bitty lady turned to me and said, "I'm sorry for the disturbance ma`am, but it's alright now."

I nodded politely, and went back into my stall and waited for my body to stop shaking, my heart to stop pounding, and for the coast to clear.

-- Merissa Sherrill Lynn

(PS: Does anybody know if it's against the law for females to use the men's room?)

YOUTH RESEARCH PROJECT:

Dear Tapestry Readers,

I am planning a study of teenage crossdressing, and I need your assistance.

In almost every instance when crossdressers meet and talk about themselves and their experiences, they mention the fact that they began to dress <u>when quite young</u>. They tell of their experiences, their problems, (and purges) through the years -- beginning in their teens (often earlier), through their young adulthood and into later life.

Even though the problems of most crossdressers (the confusion, fear, and guilt) are rooted in the teenage years, the teens are one time period which has not been looked at too closely. When the experiences of the teen years are finally shared, it is only after we are well into our twenties, thirties, and beyond. Much valuable information (i.e., feelings, reactions to our needs, the keeping of our secret, our quiet guilt, and more) is not revealed, perhaps submerged, forgotten -- but certainly not recorded. I want to tap into that information, into those experiences, into those intense emotional periods, to learn more about who

and what we are. We can learn so much more about ourselves by learning about those who are now as we were years ago.

To do that I hope to initially collect 25 or 30 cases -- teenagers who crossdress, who feel the tremendous "high" and then the precipitous drop and the "low", and the guilt and fear of discovery, and the misunderstanding of themselves that exists in between each experience. I want to establish contact with these young people, to learn about them and at the same time give them insight and support. I want to help them perhaps "side-step" some of the hurt and upset they carry in their minds. These young people will certainly have parents who will be beside themselves with heartache, worry, and frustration. The parents will be ignorant of what they observe even though a physician or therapist has been asked to help. The consultant may also be ignorant and inexperienced and appreciate some insight. I hope that in this study I can pacify and instruct both young crossdressers and their parents, and perhaps work cooperatively with their counselors -- while at the same time gather information to be recorded and reviewed.

I need your help. I need your alertness to finding these individuals and referring them to me. Admittedly these young people will be hard to locate. Young crossdressers, age 13-19, are very hidden, deep in the closet and in most instances their parents know nothing. Only a few are revealed and these are the ones I want to relate to as fully as possible.

The security of each teenager and his parents is a paramount consideration and they must be appraised of this.

Most unfortunately, because of the legal concerns that could arise, and in order for this study to be secure, teenagers who approach you for help or support but do not have parental knowledge and consent cannot be included in my study. As difficult as it may be, we must reject them. This of course narrows the field considerably, but it must be so.

Can you help? Will you keep your "sensors up"? Will you look to find a teenager in your community, or experience, or in your area of influence? Help me to put this study in motion. Contact me with any information you may have. Help me establish a core group to study and survey.

This Study, of necessity, will take time -- time to establish and to gather information. Currently, I am preparing a protocol for this study and the development of a core group. In time I can build on it. I'm quite sure the rewards will be great to the teenagers who come to me, to their families, and counselors.

One added thing -- be sure in your approach to these individuals their parents and/or counselors that you indicate to them that I <u>am</u> a physician -- a Boarded Specialist in OB-Gyn, and I do have research background.

Please keep this all in mind for the long term -- not just a week or month but for a very long time to come. I'm truly anxious for your help.

Sheila Kirk
P.O. Box 3214
Pittsburgh, PA 15230

A CASE OF DISCRIMINATION

(The following letter was received from Joanne Janiszewski, President of the Crossroads Chapter in Michigan. If any of our readers has any information or documentation that would be of help, we would be grateful if you would forward it to: ***Ms Joanne Janiszewski, Pres., c/o Crossroads Chapter, P.O. Box 1245, Royal Oak, MI 48068****)*

Dear Editor,

One of our girls has been denied an apartment in Toledo, OH, and is pursuing a court battle. The Ohio State Fair Housing Commission is acting on her behalf and is supplying her with legal representation. On her application she stated that she was a transvestite and they informed her that would not present any problems. Then they reversed their decision solely on the fact that she was a transvestite. What I need to know is if there is any court documentation that you can supply us where TVs have been successful in fighting this discrimination. If we have a precedent, it will be easier for us to show prejudice.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to help us in this endeavor and I wish to thank you in advance.

Yours Sincerely in Sisterhood,
Joanne M. Janiszewski

F_2M

Dear Editor,

It has been a scant two months that I have been dressing frequently, with 'elan, with absolute relish, with no feeling of wrongness or strangeness -- just a great drive to be the man I am. Within, this has been the case for years -- but to dress in public?

Number one, in the beginning it turned out definitely <u>not O.K.</u> to go out dressed without a companion. The best situation was to have a male companion. For me the burden was too great on the side of having to justify my existence on the face of the earth to some lummox who read me and wanted to make an issue of it. So, I had to

decide where to start and where to go dressed. Into the regular daytime public is the most fun. People are so busy anyway in their everyday life they are not scrutinizing you. It's just fun, and freeing, to go to dinner, grocery shopping, filling up at the gas station...

Going out out was another story. Night life is variously engaging, from a relatively anonymous black tie night at the opera, to the bastion of the singles scene -- THE BAR. The choice became which bar. A straight bar? As a beginner it seemed it would mean instant death, but it was the logical place to meet the straight women to whom I am attracted -- so that became a goal for the future. I would step into a straight bar when I could pass with no question, or when I am well into hormones. A mixed bar? Haven't been yet. It may be better with a friend. I have heard some un-lovely stories about some lesbians' attitude towards the serious crossdresser, and I can't fathom why. (That is one of the many reasons why I could never identify with being a lesbian, or just not understanding women. What do these women want?!) Should I go to a strictly gay male bar? As a what I ask you?

However, gay male bars are where I ended up because of a very good male friend who, to my amusement, has taken me on as his project. He has decided he is going to make me pass if it kills him. It delights him that I am already so close (to passing). My friend is trying to get me out of my impeccable suits and into casual clothing. I see his point, but it's so hard to "come down" from being so exquisitely precise and well dressed (a loving project for years!) and to dress like "the crowd" which is usually, well, in a word, sloppy. Then it was, "We're going to have to do something about that bulge in your crotch." (An athletic supporter and a pair of dress socks, thank-you-very-much!) "In a gay bar you have to be able to live through possibly getting groped. You, of course would decline, but as one male to another!" So at this time male bars are one of my finishing schools, trial by fire ... where males better be males!

Experiences so far? Well, I've been cruised with some gusto which does me no good given my preferences. And once (which I refer to as my dangerous on-your-own-and-not-yet-passing stage), I was at a local male bar, and a huge black guy sauntered over, clapped his big hand on what little left of my right breast he could possibly find under my binder and said, "Hi, Dude!" Shortly thereafter he was expelled from the bar for a ruckus he was starting on the other side of the bar, so I didn't feel exclusively picked on, but it was not a pleasant experience.

Generally, I've been pleased by friends who are delighted with how I "make a better man" (their term, bless their little hearts) than I do a female. I look forward to continue being in the world (finally!) as my best and truest self, but before me lay some decisions. So what if I pass perfectly? I'm in psychotherapy because it's good for the soul -- but I'm not yet in gender therapy, and it will soon have to be (and I hear it's for a long time). I will have to jump through the hoops, and on to hormones down the road. There are hard questions and adjustments that come with the simple ones. For example, I have been a professional opera singer, and hormones will irreversibly change my voice. Can I simply re-highlight my musical score and be a 'Tristan' instead of an 'Isolde'? Or, will the male voice be an untrained voice, and no longer a formerly trained voice, though female? I will have to ascertain if I am a tenor, baritone, or bass (in opera that translates: heros, accomplices, and villains!). Will there be talent in the new voice?

I have already pulled away from the world of opera and have been pursuing a Master's degree in a totally different field, so for this and other reasons I have that gut feeling that my need to be my proper gender (male) will win out -- but at what cost? And what gain?

If you are in whatever beginning stage of F_2M, recognize that though the process is one of fits and starts, life is a continuum -- it does not end at one point and begin at another. You will have your unique set of painfully precious hurdles along with the easy and the what-comes-natural. Take it like a good equestrian... half-seat through the small jumps, find your center with practice, and then go higher!

Life is so precious -- and there is no time to be less than what you are!

-- James P.

TS (opinion)

Dear Editor,

In the beginning M-F TSs have only clothes and makeup to manifest their dreams of womanhood visibly to the general public. Physically, they are still predominately masculine and hormone therapy does little to feminize the masculine form. To this end much effort is put into planning the right clothes, makeup done just right, countless minutes spent examining one's reflection until perfection is complete. Then, and only then does she venture out into public view.

After surgery she knows that she is now beyond detection and can defy even the closest scrutiny. "I AM a woman," she can say (and she can believe it) and few can dispute it. Why is it then that many post-ops stop trying to further develop an indisputable feminine image and seem to think projecting a feminine air is no longer necessary? Many slump back into old habits, pride in their personal appearance no longer matters. They stop using makeup and stop trying to act feminine, confident they no longer have to prove it. Their desires are stifled, and the fun of dressing in fancy clothes is gone. Going out on the town

becomes as mundane as a woman as it was as a man. One's ability to pass in a woman's dressing room is not concrete evidence of one's gender.

In actuality life has changed little from the previous male role - making friends, earning a living, eating, entertaining and sleeping.

What one does with this new persona is the bottom line to all the effort. It is a must to continue projecting a strong female image to combine with that new-found internal confidence. If the outside image is not continued and practiced further the entire exercise has been a waste.

- Paddy & Michelle (CAN)

Dear Editor,

Your publication is a great outlet for me, and its indirect counseling through the letters and articles from your members has greatly helped me in my transformation process. It has been somewhat easier, though not painless by any means.

Since reading your publication I can certainly identify with many persons and their personal situations in dealing with this thing. One book I read which I think is very well written and worth reading is by Dr. John Money. It is named Gay, Straight, and In-between. I recommend it for all to read, and certainly those in our community trying to understand G I/R situations, and our attitudes towards sexual comprehension and variances in the human species. Dr. Money, in my opinion, has pioneered research and therapy in this field, which has allowed us TVs & TSs to know, understand, and accept our fate, and find successful solutions for ourselves, and society.

- Karen M. (NV-M1951)

Dear Tapestry,

I found your magazine recently, and what a breath of fresh air. One look at the Tapestry and reading the articles, I felt OK about my desire to crossdress for the first time ever. Thanks!

- P.S. (WA)

Dear Editor,

#53 was my first. My main interest was in the TS articles, but I read other articles to try and get a better understanding of other types of crossdressers.

Since I have been in the military for almost 10 years, I read the article "Crossdressing and the Military" with more than passing interest. The points made are quite true as to how the armed forces view TV/TS or homosexual individuals, and the counter was also quite good... up to the point of national security that is. I have held a security clearance for almost my entire career and the implications of my transsexualism for possible compromise has always been there with me. However, I decided in the beginning that loss of job, friends, and even family, is not enough to make me betray the country I have twice sworn to give my life for. Anyone who is not willing to make that sacrifice should not be in such a position.

Admittedly though this would make not one lick of difference in the military's response should I be found out. That is why I plan to get out after this enlistment so that I might find a more suitable climate to explore my identity.

The funny thing is that until I had accepted my inner femininity I would never have found the strength to say these things.

- M.H. (NE-1938)

Dear Editor,

Let me begin by briefly introducing myself. I'm 32, and have been engaging in transgender behavior my entire life. I've spent most of my years dealing with the usual emotions and the self-torture with which I'm sure many of you are quite familiar. (All?)

Last year I discovered the Tapestry. Since then I have met and corresponded with many fine, intelligent, sensitive, decent people who varyingly share my special needs and desires. All of this has helped me to come to terms with who I am. Now, for the first time in my life, I can honestly say that I like myself and am no longer afraid or ashamed. I am truly happy!

I would also like to comment on the delightfully dignified manner in which Diane, Carol, and Carrie conducted themselves during their recent appearance on the Geraldo Rivera Show. I greatly admire their deportment, courage, and femininity.

- Candace Susann (NY-1735)

TS

Dear Editor,

As many of you may know, much has changed in my life during the past few years. I've certainly changed - "finally grew up" might be the best way to describe it. I'm alive, in good health, married to a wonderful man, and very happy!

Though no longer directly involved with any of the support groups, I still have a vested interest and lingering feelings of obligation to the gender conflicted community (for I did gain much in terms of knowledge, self-awareness, support, and friendship). I would like to be able to return something of value to the community which gave me so much!

It's difficult to find the correct words of expression for my feelings and thoughts without fear of being misunderstood and appearing critical. Perhaps it's difficult simply because all of my experiences (positive and negative) have all proved to become so wonderfully positive, well beyond any of my initial expectations!

Contrary to many of the pessimistic and "not so happy" stories (which have tended to historically permeate the gender conflicted communities promoting fear, anxiety and apprehension), I did not experience any situation which contained enough of an emotional impact to imprint me with any lasting feelings of anger, bitterness, despair or helplessness. I wasn't immune to various degrees of social pressures (expressed both blatantly and subliminally), and at times did feel much hurt. However, I didn't lose my job (was never in danger of being fired or laid off), and didn't lose my security clearance (was investigated and psychologically examined by the D.O.D.). Medical insurance covered 80% of all related expenses (initial requests were challenged) all credentials (birth certificate, drivers license, etc.) were easily changed, and lines of credit were maintained. The staff of the Gender Identity Clinic were conservatively cautious during the screening process, yet understanding (it's their job and I applaud them for doing it well). The surgical teams, the hospital staffs, and the follow-up physicians were all courteous, kind and understanding. (Even the hospital food was good!) In general most all who I encountered had only my well being and welfare at heart!

There was, of course, some immediate post-operative discomfort, but nothing more than anyone would experience after any form of a fairly complex surgical procedure. Much of the discomfort was offset by my own strong emotional feelings of elation. To date there have been no post-operative complications nor any adverse hormonal effects. My current feelings and thoughts reflect only joy, happiness, a strong sense of well-being, appreciation, and gratitude.

In retrospect - much of my past life was lived in a sort of limbo-like state; male physically and socially, female emotionally and completely so predisposed. Today I think, believe, and know I've almost completely achieved the position of normalcy, occupying an accepted position socially within a community of everyday people who with or without (mostly without) knowledge of my past, accept me as the woman I always was.

- Diantha S. (NH)

Dear Tapestry Readers,

This is a two-purpose letter. First, after my personal listing appeared in the Tapestry over two years ago I received many letters from sisters around the country. I want to apologize for not answering you.

Secondly, I want to give a brief list of the things that happened in my life, and the choices I made in response. This is a warning for other sisters trying to shoulder all the junk that comes their way without letting their sisters know they need a soft shoulder to cry on now and then.

My wife and I were blessed with the dubious pleasures of aggravated bronchial asthma and arthritis (with unpleasant side effects from the medication), and both my parents died. During this time I've been unable to dress or socialize (so I kept telling myself), and progressively let my male self gain weight, become somewhat careless in dress and appearance, and in general began feeling very sorry for myself. What a lot of easy excuses I invented for everything I wanted to pass over, avoid or screw up.

Over the last few months I've begun to discover some wonderful things about myself, among them that God - for me, the Great Spirit and Grandmother Earth - are just as happy to have me as their daughter as their son. My wife is not put off by my wanting to dress, and even flatters me by saying to people at TV boutiques that "she" has gorgeous legs. Sigh! She wants to help me with makeup and visiting TV groups for socializing. All of this is on top of getting in touch with the Native American half of my heritage, new friends in the Craft Community locally and in spirit ("Craft" as in Pagans, not "hobbies") has opened up so much and given me the need to share with my sisters.

There are caring persons around you to lean on when you need, as you are there for them to lean on. You've got to learn to let others give when they can. In fact, you owe it to your friends to let them give when and what they can. And, you owe it to your deity to just say, "Here I am, as I am, needing and wanting love and acceptance now and here. Help in trouble is great, but I could sure use a hug too!" Oh - don't forget to hug yourself. Did you hug your self today?

"Joanna" and "John" live in the same body. They are finally in a working harmony, not as separate parts, but as uniquely compatible components of one unique and lovely person, who is essentially a little more feminine than masculine, and prone to mood swings and frustration when not remembering to claim "her" space as needed, in her turn and when appropriate. I used to punish one half of myself because I was afraid to openly express the other half. What a lot of energy expended going around in circles biting myself in the tail.

The depression that I allowed myself to grow into was not in any way fair for me or anyone else, and it didn't satisfy any of my needs. A short candid talk with a few friends made a lot of difference, when I could psych myself up to it. God is pretty easy to talk to when you're alone. After all, God never sleeps, always listens, although God may put you on "hold" once in awhile to force you to answer your own questions. But, be careful about putting yourself on hold, ignoring your own needs to express the pain as well as the joy - "all the good and lean years, and all the in-between years, come what may."

There are a lot of wonderful caring supportive people in my life. I'm growing, and each day I walk more in beauty, for myself, and for others. So my sisters, I'll be writing to you who have written to me, and to others. The pain of arthritis lingers, but the pain of the heart is washed away. Other pains will come -- and go.

My sisters, walk in beauty. In beauty it all began, in beauty it goes on, in beauty it is complete. Life is beauty.

Your sister,
Joanna Alice G. (CA-2060)

Dear Tapestry,

Thank you for making me feel like I am not alone. I'm still closeted, but someday I will come out and you are making that eventual day easier and easier.

I find that I really like having two people inside one, two personalities, two sets of interests, two sets of goals and directions. While this bigenderal orientation can sometimes cause problems, the benefits from looking at life from two viewpoints are simply unsurpassed.

The feminine being is much more civilized than the masculine. I find that allowing feminine traits to come out lends a balance, a sanity to my otherwise somewhat macho male self. I find myself responding with a new understanding and amusement when my male friends do something particularly male in context - brag about sports prowess, sexual attractiveness, career and money triumphs. "Yes, that's fine Joe, but do you know who you really are, and are you in touch with your entire self, not just your facade?" Unfortunately, in most cases, I think not. Usually deeper questions are never asked. A crossdresser has no choice - he/she must ask the question or be in permanent conflict, "Who am I?"

Thank you again for your wonderful work.

- Lisa Maxwell (CA)

(CONGRESS OF REPRESENTATIVES)
from:
Leone Neil
The Minorities Trust
P.O. Box 2983
Wellington, New Zealand

Dear Friends,

If the IFGE is to be of any value to people outside the USA, their first priority must be to canvass for evidence of discrimination and abuses against our gender group, and to lobby the UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS SECTOR.

The second priority must be to take cases on behalf of the gender group to the INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JURISTS.

The third priority must be to seek compensation and damages for crimes against the gender group in any country who was a signatory to the INTERNATIONAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS at the UNITED NATIONS (compensation on group basis and on individual persons basis).

Discrimination on the grounds of religious belief or heterosexual dominance must be challenged. The suppression and condemnation of a minority group must be challenged.

It is essential we study medical abuses, exorbitant costs, pre-op and post-op counselling, and the failure of medical professionals to pay adequate attention to our rights as people.

You are based in America, where life is so vastly different from other English speaking countries and people with other ethnic backgrounds. You need to be constantly aware that you have opportunities which simply do not exist elsewhere, BUT we all have basic human denominators in common. Do you understand what I'm trying to say? Americans are well known for forming organizations and holding tea parties, and fund raising events, BUT you must concentrate upon the global issues that matter most.

- Leone Neil

(Edited from 'Trans-Talk' vol. 1 no. 1, published by Transsupport, P.O. Box 17622, Portland, ME 04101 207-854-3528)

Dear Sisters,

As I begin to write I have to look back in amazement at the changes in my life over the past several months.

Although I have been crossdressing for 30 years, I found myself as ignorant of my dilemma as the average

person in the street. Then an article on the back page of a local newspaper began to turn things around. On July 23, 1988, I browsed half-attentive through the morning paper and almost missed the picture of the two ladies on the last page. The lengthy article caught my eye like a nuclear symbol, and I could feel my emotions rising as I read about Merissa and Yvonne and IFGE. As I read I could feel the tears beginning at the corners of my eyes as I realized for the first time that maybe, just maybe there was someone out there in the world that understood what I had been experiencing for most of my life. I realized that there were others who knew the guilt, shame, constant fear, and self-doubt that I had known for so long.

I read the article a dozen times, then, afraid that my wife might find the clipping, I threw the paper away. It took me two months before I built up the courage to go to the public library and dig out the file article, and several days more before I could bring myself to call IFGE. Yvonne answered and I was so nervous I could hardly talk. She listened patiently, and offered me supportive information. She also brought up two very important facts: One, there is no "cure" for crossdressing, and two, there are tens of thousands of sisters out there with the same concerns.

As I look back, I cannot believe how little I knew about something that affected me so deeply. I knew that there had to be others with similar feelings, yet the nature of the beast is extremely solitary and restricted by the confines of an equally ignorant society. We all know how members of the TV/TS community are looked upon by the general public, and this extreme prejudice only forces many people who lead alternative lifestyles farther into the closet, which is a worst case scenario for most. As one retreats farther into the closet, fear and self-hate are magnified to the point where the constant conflict between the he-she, or vise versa, makes one's life a living hell. I know from lengthy experience how much the stolen moments of our lives can mean, and how the denial of our true feelings can upset one's equilibrium. I can remember many times I had planned to dress up and relax, only to have something else come up which prevented my doing so, and I can remember feeling that there was a world-wide conspiracy working against me, planning all kinds of things just to keep me from being able to relax my internal frustrations.

While perusing my first issue of the Tapestry I discovered the name and address of Transupport, located right here in Portland! I almost fainted when I read those few lines and immediately dashed off a letter seeking more information. One week later, I couldn't stop my hands from shaking as I read the letter I received, and once again I came up with courage I didn't know I had and called Diana's number. We had the most wonderful conversation, me nervous as usual, and she informative, supportive, and obviously concerned.

Talk about a revelation! From reading the Tapestry and speaking one-on-one with Diana, I learned more in a week than I'd known all my life to date. Two weeks later I arranged to meet with Diana, and in my own little "coming out" I introduced my femme self to another person for the first time. It was a moment I will never forget. The hour we spent together ended all too soon, but gave me much needed hope that I could someday be one with myself and the people that matter so much in my life.

After my meeting with Diana, I suffered a bout of depression, almost as bad as the feeling left over from my drinking days. (I've known for years that my problems with alcohol related directly to my suppressed feminine desires, but those days are another chapter altogether.) My wife, whom I love and adore completely, noticed something was very wrong. She is a very intelligent and perceptive person, and I just can't put much over on her. She asked what was wrong, and after what seemed like an eternity of world ending insecurity, I finely told her my secret. To my great surprise and relief, she dealt with it quite well, and even made a little light of the subject by remarking that it was too bad my femme self didn't like house cleaning a bit more. My femme persona instantly took more of an interest in household chores.

Diana graciously lent me a copy of "The Transvestite and His Wife" by Virginia Prince. I believe this book and the Tapestry will help us both in coping with my behavior. I hope with all my heart, and with the longing that goes to the very core of my being, that my wife will be understanding and supportive. I know that it is an awful lot to ask of her, but I need her friendship and understanding more than anything else, and I will certainly do my best to help her.

- Melissa Leigh J. (ME)

(The outreach and networking has worked, and now the growth and the healing begins. Melissa, good luck to both you and your wife. You have found a wonderful friend in Diana, and a wonderful group in Transupport. I'm sure with their help you will be successful. - ED)

(POETRY)

In Memory of Billy Tipton -
and "Billys" everywhere

Well, Billy - musically speaking -
"The song is ended,
But the melody lingers on -"

Now, I'm sure I do remember
When my kid sister used to say:
"Won't you let me join you, brother -
Can't I come along and play?"

"Girls," I'd say, "don't play with boys -
Our games are much too rough,
Besides, you're soft and kind of weak,
Whereas we boys are tough!"

Billy, does this sound at all
Like what you may have heard?
And knowing that you were a girl
Did it sound - even then - absurd?

You must have felt while growing up
That speaking musically,
You could play as hard and just as well
If not better than any 'he'?

And then you said - sometime - somewhere -
Why fight? I'll damn well join them,
And donning pants and shorning locks
You passed as 'man' and ceased being woman.

Well, you proved for certain through your playing,
That you were among the very best -
And when it came to living life
More importantly - you met its every test.

So, finally, I'd like to say
To "Billys" everywhere -
Don't feel unkind toward your brothers
For the simple truth is this -
Many of us would have loved to play your games,
And - truthfully - we were just plain - envious!

- Louise Catherine Milner (CAN-1787)

(POETRY)

I am woman, I am man.
I have beauty inside me,
I have strength.
There was always beauty inside me,
but it was buried, locked, denied.
I have always had strength,
but it scared me, worried me, made me anxious.

I am woman, I am man.
Outside I was only a man.
My woman was my deepest secret,
Locked in a hidden magic garden.
Mostly I couldn't get there -
except in my dreams.

I am woman, I am man.
Why was my man so scary?
So fraught, desperate, devoid?
Perpetual vigil against strength being harm.
At best tight-lipped tolerance from the world - earned by eternal service.
But always risk of a mistake, and the consequences unthinkable.
Punishing myself,
To try to get right with the world.

I am woman, I am man.
Therapists tried to help me cure myself
Of my womanhood.
That would be a living death
With tube feeding from Hollywood,
And a meaningless job,
And a prickly pear to go round
At five o'clock in the morning.
But where is joy? Where is life? Where is love?

I am woman, I am man.
At last I found my hidden garden.
I found it in a canyon in Colorado.
I found it in music.
I found in my womanhood.
I found it in my friends and dear ones.
I'm learning how to be in my secret garden
Whenever I want -
Which is most of the time.

I am woman, I am man.
Now my beauty shines out.
Now my strength is safe,
and good, and joyous.
I stand tall and proud and happy,
I run the woods.
I revel in the beauty of nature, of art, of people.
I glory in the beauty of my friends.
Now my love for them can pour out.
Now I can accept their love.

- Robin Esch (MA)

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SPECIAL FEATURE

IFGE's 3rd Annual 'COMING TOGETHER - WORKING TOGETHER' CONVENTION SAN FRANCISCO '89

THE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By: Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Convention Director

I do not want to bore you with one more travelogue, or a blow by blow description of our problems and successes. All of that will become apparent throughout this special convention feature. Rather, I want to help you understand the convention, and why it is such an important event to our community.

In fact, "our community" is why we created the convention. We don't **have** a community! What we have is an identifiable market, individuals and groups scattered across the gender spectrum (from fetishists, through crossdressers, transsexuals, and significant others) and providers (people happy to sell us their services and wares). An identifiable market is **not** a community. A community is a family, a group of people who care about each other, who support each other, and who take care of each other. A community is a group of people who will work together for the benefit of all. The 'Coming Together' convention is not a product to be sold to you the customer. It is our community's convention. It is an opportunity for all of us to come together, to meet our leaders, to become leaders, to learn from and to teach each other, and to learn how to respect and care about each other. The convention does not just give us an opportunity to say we are a community, it helps us **feel** it.

I have been asked countless times, "What's in it for me?" The answer is simple. If your needs are totally satisfied, and you feel no obligation to those who helped you satisfy those needs, and you don't care about anyone else, then there is nothing in it for you, and the convention is not for you. You are not a member of our community, you are somebody's customer. However, if you still have needs, or want to pass on the help that was given you, and you do care about others, then the convention is for you, for you are a member of our community.

The convention is a widely publicized event and provides us an opportunity to show off our dignity, not only to each other, but to the world. It is an opportunity to show we are proud human beings, proud of who and what we are. For us to be effective as a community we must have pride, we must have dignity, we must have self acceptance and self respect. Since 'Coming Together' is our community's convention, it is **the one event** when it is most important we put our collective best foot forward. It pays big dividends for us all.

I have a story. During my telephone conversations with the hotel before our arrival I noticed a certain hostility. That hostility became obvious once we arrived; the hotel staff was distant and unfriendly, the registration people were impatient, even rude, and we were getting wary glances from most everyone. Monday and Tuesday saw a gradual thaw, and by Wednesday we were drinking buddies with virtually the entire hotel. One night I was sharing a drink with Jeanne (the director of marketing), and she shared with me the reasons for the hostility. It seems the hotel was under new management and the staff was new. They had inherited the contracts (including ours) from the previous owners, and didn't know us from a boatload of bananas. A week or so before our convention they had a group called, 'Leather International', or something like it. Guests were getting hassled; one guest had her face split open with a whip. People were driving their motorcycles through the lobby. They had a practical demonstration of safe sex on stage. Used condoms were left lying around. In short, the hotel was not happy, and without knowing us thought we were just one more kinky group. By the end of the convention we were getting hugs from the housekeepers and offers for future conventions from the management. Perhaps the most telling statement came from Judy, a waitress who had been with the hotel forever and had seen it all. She came up to me and said, "You people are the best **group** this hotel has ever had." The best **group**! Think about that, my wonderful sisters and brothers, and see if you don't feel some pride.

I have another story. Our '88 convention was held at the Ramada O'Hare in Chicago. The '89 'Be All' was also held in Chicago. A group of 25 or so from 'Be All' (many of whom were at the '88 convention) went to the Ramada

for a drink. The Ramada hotel bought the entire group a round of drinks. I repeat, if we as a community conduct ourselves with dignity and pride, what we get back in return is respect and appreciation. As I said, it pays big dividends.

I have talked about the convention as a way to build a community, and tend to our community's business. I have talked about the convention as a way to build a sense of dignity and pride. But, the convention is much more than that. It is a **convention**! That means we pool our collective resources for the benefit of all. We work. We play. We teach, we learn, and we grow, and we do so as a community. We invite in allied professionals to teach us and to learn from us. We invite in retailers to show us their wares and to learn our needs. We honor our leaders and contributors, and extend our love and welcome to our newcomers.

The "Coming Together - Working Together" convention is a tool to help our community grow.

- END -

(Edited from 'A Rose News' Vol. I No. IV, published by: A Rose, P.O. Box 4351, Scottsdale, AZ 85261)

IFGE CONVENTION UNITES COMMUNITY

By: Wendi Pierce

Who could guess ten, five, or even three years ago that today our community would be holding conventions in major cities and at major hotels around the country. Such has come to pass as demonstrated by the recent "Coming Together" convention of the International Foundation for Gender Education. This event, one of the best attended to date, had over 225 registered attendees, and over 600 room nights booked at the San Franciscan hotel. In statistics alone the event was significant. over 50 groups from around the world were represented, over 600 meals were served, a "Bay Cruise" ship was chartered, and the cost to hold the event was in excess of $36,000 (not including the cost of rooms).

Our community should be congratulated on its support of this event, support ranging from mere attendance to the extraordinary effort put forth by those in ETVC, the host group. A special thanks should be sent out to Ginny Knuth, a "significant other" who led the ETVC efforts to make this convention such a great success. She and the ETVC staff spent countless hours prior to and during this event to make sure events came off as promised.

Others involved in making this event a success hailed from all over the country. They included Ren'ee Chevalier, the Staff Coordinator, Yvonne Cook, the Financial Coordinator, Merissa Lynn, the Convention Director, Bette Johnson, the Convention Coordinator, Robin Esch, the Programs Coordinator, Sheila Kirk, the Banquets Coordinator, and many many others. Again, all who helped deserve to be recognized for their fine efforts.

Programs this year were very well chosen and presented by knowledgeable individuals. All who I talked with felt that the speakers were excellent and the material was current and informative. This year though, there was stiff competition between the programs and San Francisco itself. The weather was very cooperative, perhaps a little on the hot side, and the lure of the sights and places to go drew many people away from some of the programs.

Night life in this lively city was in abundance. One could choose from everything from a '50s & '60s dance bar frequented by such diverse groups from "yuppies" to merchant marines. Or, one could go to the other extreme and spend the evening at "The Top of the Mark", a plush lounge and restaurant at the top of one of the tallest buildings in San Francisco. The city was ours, and our presence was everywhere, exploring, shopping, dining, and just sight seeing in the cross-gender roles many of us get little chance to show the world.

Many of the notables both within our community and in general were present at this event. There was Betty Ann Lind of Outreach Institute and Fantasia Fair; Ariadne Kane, this year's recipient of the Virginia Prince Award for community service; Merissa Sherrill Lynn, IFGE's founding force and current Executive Director; Richard Docter, the author of "Transvestites and Transsexuals"; Virginia Prince, the grand dame of our community; Jose Sarria, the founder of the Imperial Court system; Stan Dale, founder of the Human Awareness Institute, and many others. Our community was out in force, from the famous to the novices just out of the closet.

The closet was much closer than one would expect at this event. Betty Ann Lind and I were enjoying a night cap in the hotel bar on Friday night and we started talking to a middle aged gentleman. After about 45 minutes of chit-chat we discovered that he had heard about the convention at another hotel he was staying at earlier in the week and had moved to this hotel to experience a little of what the convention was about. As it turned out, he later confessed that he was a closet crossdresser all his life but he never had been able to summon up the courage to come out. He even indicated that he had brought an outfit as he normally does when traveling. With a little coaxing and much supportive encouragement, he finally indicated that he might give it a shot before the event was over. The next evening at the banquet, I was in the reception line greeting the attendees and a familiar voice spoke to me. At first I could not place it but when he (now she) jogged my

memory about the previous night, it all came together and I realized that "she" was making her debut in society. We had done our job the night before and it was obvious that this person was happier that night than most people could ever imagine. A persona had come out that had been locked inside for half a lifetime, and now it was this persona's turn to enjoy the evening and the remainder of the convention.

The overall attitude of the attendees at this year's convention was much more positive and a strong sense of caring and friendship for others in the community was very apparent. It was a true coming together of all segments of our community with a united purpose of doing something for the community. This year was also significant in that the "Congress of Representatives" which had its beginnings in meetings during and after last year's event was taking shape and had its first meetings during the week. Not only did the congress convene, but they agreed on a proposal for IFGE Board consideration that defines their role and also defines what will be expected of IFGE on their behalf. This proposal was accepted by a Board vote at the annual Board meeting on Sunday and will be the basis for future interaction between IFGE and all the associated groups.

In other Board business, a new, and very well defined set of by-laws drawn up by the Legal & By-Laws Committee was approved, a formal organizational structure for IFGE was approved, IFGE was given the approval by the Board to venture into the publishing business other than Tapestry. The congress of groups was given the authority to do the nominating for vacant and expiring IFGE Board positions, and a formal budget for the coming year was approved. The only piece of pending business not resolved, actually it was returned to committee, were the specifics of what membership entails and how a person gains membership in IFGE. Currently, Tapestry subscribers and all who make financial contributions to IFGE are considered members. Members are entitled to vote in IFGE elections and have access to IFGE's resources, library and archives.

In conclusion, I feel that this was a historic event for our community. We showed each other and the community in general that we are becoming a united community, a community dedicated to accomplishing something for the common good, a loving and caring community and a community looking toward the future.

With that I'll close for now with a line that I feel we all were doing in San Francisco, GO FOR IT!

- END -

COMMENTS FROM SAN FRANCISCO '89

(Edited from "Inner View" Vol. 5 No. 5, published by Cross-Port, P.O. Box 12701, Cincinnati, OH 45212)

THE SIG O's AND THE EVENTS

I was going to write an article about spousal acceptance or something otherwise serious, but the San Francisco vacation left us too light-hearted for that, and now my title sounds like competition for "Mr. Sister" or another studio musician band.

However flippant I sound, I can get serious about what a good time I had. Sig O (sometimes Significant Otters) became our pet name for significant others, a nice, tidy, nonsexist term for husband/wife, boy or girlfriend. The meaning it had for our trip was the wonderful events planned by ETVC for those of us who might not be as interested in the keynote speakers, or were viewing this as more of a vacation than the Prom Week of Dress, or as an opportunity to match pace with others walking in the same shoes (so to speak).

I must admit some apprehension on my part. I am quite content with sticking close to my S.O. in a new and different city -- in S.F.'s case, an alternate reality to my little midwestern flat earth theory -- and here not only was I going to meet people I didn't know (gasp!) but I was going to spend all day with them doing fun but unfamiliar things!

All in all, I have to thank ETVC and the Significant Other Support group for their caring and creative planning. Best of all, my concerns were resolved positively. It was never a second class operation -- it wasn't babysitting for adults. In fact our S.O.'s were a bit envious and would have liked to join our tours.

I think my biggest regret is that more S.O.'s did not take advantage of this opportunity for learning, fun, and camaraderie.

-- Laurie (Cross-Port)

(Edited from ETVC Newsletter Vol 7 No 6, published by ETVC, P.O. Box 6846, San Francisco, CA 94101)

A Wife's Perspective

As I was sailing out the door to go to work, my husband asked me if I was doing anything later that day. Was I busy? Hmmmm, I wondered, what does he want?

"Do you think you could spend a few minutes jotting down your ideas about the convention?"

"The convention! Oh, I guess, but I would need some time."

"Oh, but I need it for the newsletter."

"The newsletter? The deadline was last week!"

"Yes, but we still have a little time."

A little time.... what is a little time? How can I come up with something due yesterday that could possibly describe my feelings about the convention? How can I find the right words to describe my emotions after meeting such wonderful people from all over the country? (...Seattle, Portland, New York, Houston, Carson City - you name it!) What a group; smiling, friendly faces everywhere. And "they" call crossdressing a disorder. I didn't see disorder anywhere. I saw humor, generosity, helpfulness; I saw optimism; I saw hope.

Oh, I know there were problems. What convention doesn't have them? The preparation and planning was tremendous, and I hope the committee members know how much they are appreciated. I only wish that I could have personally thanked everyone responsible.

The weather was warm, but so were our feelings. The desk help may have left a bit to be desired, but what a splendid hotel! What magnificence and grandeur! The convention committees deserve much credit for selecting such an elegant setting for its meetings and socials. The food was good and the hotel maids and bell hops friendly and willing to help.

To me, as a significant other, the convention was a wonderful success!

I was able to attend the couples' social on Tuesday afternoon. In a pleasant room on the Mezzanine, several couples met and chatted together for a few hours. Everyone was excited about being together, and we became instant friends. I was sad when it was over, and had to BART-it * back to East Bay, and reality. While riding back I thought how sweet and kind everyone was. Not a patronizing, condescending one in the bunch!

The week was spent with good friends, intelligent and exciting conversation, and enjoying the many events specifically for wives. When the convention neared its end it was difficult for everyone knowing we would all be going our separate ways. We were in a fantasy world. That we knew! But how lucky we were to be surrounded by such a rich group of friends! How fortunate for all of us to have such a rare opportunity to talk with others who have experienced the same emotions and who have encountered the same reactions from a society reluctant to let people "be all that they can be."

Were there problems? Oh yes, for sure. Can you ever get a group of women together without problems? But I will let someone else talk about that. As a significant other, I had a marvelous time, and will remember the IFGE convention of 1989.

-- Julie (ETVC-SOS)

*(* BART = Bay Area Rapid Transit.)*

Besides the business meetings, the functions, luncheons, and banquets, the convention provided many opportunities for visiting conventioneers to really get out and kick up their heels.

Many of us especially enjoyed the camaraderie of having a few cocktails and singing together in several of the piano bars. We found, you don't have to be a good singer to have a lot of fun, and laughter is the greatest voice of all.

One night, after singing at the Galleon, we ventured to Zims all-night restaurant (for breakfast), before returning to the hotel. We were, of course, in a very hearty mood, having a rousing good old time, but no more boisterous than any girl would be after her first high school prom.

Laughter was indeed the theme. However, an S.F.P.D. sergeant was having his breakfast in one of the adjacent booths. although he glanced at us quite often, it was obvious he was not annoyed (too much) by our jocular activities, and seemed to consider us just another bunch of guys in dresses (well-dressed of course). Although it was obvious that most of us present at that time were quite capable of "passing" under some conditions, five girls in Zims, at three o'clock in the morning, was not one of them.

After completing his meal, and leaving to pay his bill, the sergeant approached our table. We greeted him with the theme song from the old Dragnet TV (television) series, "Dumm-de-dum-dum", which seemed to be quite appropriate at the time. He greeted us with, "Hi," and an cheery smile and the following statements which are as accurate as the mellowness of the moment and my memory will allow: "You know, I've been around this town for a long time, and I thought I'd seen everything, but you guys are really something else. I don't know what you are all on, but whatever it is, I wish they would pass it around. I have never seen people have as much fun. You are really enjoying yourselves. You are happy and are very entertaining. I certainly enjoyed seeing you all so happy and having so much fun. Keep up the good work."

We were all quite taken by the graciousness and sincerity of this kind police officer. It shows how far we have come over the years, to acceptance by the general public and especially the police force. Certainly it proves San Francisco is the place to be - just another guy in a dress.

-- Joan Sheldon (ETVC)

For the first time I was able to meet many of the "movers & shakers" of the gender community. Virginia Prince, Ariadne Kane, Betty Ann Lind and Ellen Summers were just a few I had heard about and got to meet. All were exceedingly gracious and although my knowledge of the history of our gender community is incredibly limited which caused me to be rather intimidated, all ignored it and treated me as an equal. It took me a couple of days, but I was able to get over my culture shock. Now I can look through a Tapestry and say, "I know that person, I met her in San Francisco."

-- Cathy (Cross-Port)

This is just a quick note to say that I thought the IFGE "Coming Together" convention in San Francisco was a huge success. My imperative for the week was "communication", and I felt very positive about strides made along those lines by both the organization delegates and others.

The speakers, especially Jose', were excellent and the services provided by the hotel, professional support, and IFGE itself were wonderful. The IFGE staff, notably Renee, Yvonne, Dan, Sheila, and Merissa deserve recognition for such a well run meeting. ETVC and Ginny Knuth did a wonderful job as the host group.

-- Diane (Alpha Zeta)

On Saturday our keynote speaker was Jose Sarria, a prominent leader in the San Francisco gay community. In spite of his flamboyant red wig and purple blouse, here was a man of learning. In his speech he pointed out that San Francisco hadn't always been so tolerant of sexual minorities. There was a time when you could have been arrested for doing what we all did so carefree, like schoolgirls on an outing. At the end of his speech another tear streaked my makeup. This is not an exact quote, but he said something to the following effect:

"There is no law that you now break to walk the streets of our city in your nice clothes. That was not always so. I ask that you love one another and see in others that God has made each person as a unique individual. When you walk out of this hotel onto the street do so proudly and have no guilt for expressing yourself as you desire."

I realized just how far we have come in twenty years... from being absolute outcasts to being able to have the respect of the professional community and the right to walk down Market Street in San Francisco unmolested.

-- Glenda (Fiesta Chapter)

We heard a wonderful speaker at Saturday's luncheon, Jose Sarria, who is the founder of the Imperial Court System and first Empress of San Francisco. Jose told us, in words and by example, to be confident and sure of ourselves. He then made a very profound statement: "We are like a many-faceted diamond. Each of us has an important part to play - so that diamond will sparkle." Think of that. The different faces - TV's, TG's, TS's, FI's, Partners, and our various groups of friends and allies all play a part, making their particular face shine, and the total diamond sparkles! Within, we have Merissa's "symbiotic synergism" tying us together. We saw a lot of that at this convention.

-- Robin (Tiffany Club)

Primed for our arrival, the staff and management of the San Franciscan hotel could not have been more gracious and accepting, while the city itself demonstrated a tolerance that I don't thing I could have imagined a few short years ago. Ever dream of the breeze whipping about your skirt as you strolled down Market Street - WITHOUT sirens or irate mobs screaming after you? It happened... and lots more.

"Coming Together" was the main theme of the convention and in this aspect it is always extremely successful. Week-long contact with sisters of like mind underscores the similarity of our lives and experiences and it demonstrates what a remarkable source of energy and talent we have within our circle - if we can only harness it for the advancement of understanding of the cause.

It was at the closing Saturday night Awards Banquet that Southern California stole the show as Wendy Parker, Jenni Burleton, and Janet Edwards debuted "the world's first TV musical comedy act - "Mister Sister" to standing ovations. No amateur night attempt, this was a truly professional Big Time performance that "blew them out of their socks" (or whatever)!

All in all, the convention was a memorable experience, leaving little doubt that CHIC has much to gain by the growth of IFGE.

-- Linda (CHIC)

As a relatively new organization, IFGE is going through some significant growing pains, as should be expected. I found, however, that almost everyone at the convention was supremely interested in seeing that IFGE works as an organization. I was incredibly impressed with all the people there, especially the leadership.

This year, a major item on the agenda was the establishment of a "Congress of Representatives". I was honored to have been an active participant in the establishment of the Congress, which, to me, is a key to the success of both IFGE and the larger goals we, as a community, wish to achieve.

As Representatives of Neutral Corner, Kathy and I were invited to a Reps reception. The reception was wonderful. We met so many people there, including most of the movers and shakers in the community as well as many other representatives from local groups. One thing I must say is that, without exception, the "movers and shakers" are the most genuine, real, unassuming bunch of movers and shakers I've ever met. They were as genuinely glad to meet us as we were to meet them and treated us no differently than they would any other colleague.

I'd like to say a few words about the people at the convention. I would say that I think that they are very caring people. I was always impressed by their intelligence, their drive, and their commitment. We've come a long way as a community because of leaders like Virginia Prince, Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Wendi Pierce, Betty Ann Lind, Ari Kane and a whole host of other dedicated people. This convention certainly impressed me deeply and renewed my faith in our community leaders.

But I was equally impressed by all the lesser lights in our community, people like you and me. I met so many people, almost all of whom were equally warm, caring and dedicated as are our leaders. I really felt a sense of

community. Yet, we are all different. We actually met very few people who were "garden variety" TVs with spouses who were reasonably supportive. I was surprised by the number of people who are TSs and/or TGs, living full time. Maybe this was just an artifact of the public nature of a convention. Those who are already "public" are probably more likely to attend such a convention than those who are more private, which most TVS are. I had a wonderful sense that throughout all our individuality, we do indeed have a common purpose which Merissa calls "gender issues". We all have a strong sense of gender in our lives and issues about gender which the rest of the world doesn't share. That, to me, makes us special as a group. Thus I truly felt the specialness of each of us as individuals and the specialness of us all as a group.

-- Jo (Neutral Corner)

A great week, a marvelous experience, and an enlightening event. I look forward to future "Coming Together's". And, my thanks to Murphy for not showing up.

-- Betsy (SGA)

One priceless moment was at the conclusion of the Banquet: the Mr. Sister show, put together by Wendy Parker, Jenni Burleton, and Janet Edwards. Despite the very up-beat performance, I am sure there were few dry eyes in the hall after Jenni's emotion-filled finale.

-- Janice (Boulton & Park)

I wish some of our "male" conventions would be such fun and such a source of deep happiness.

-- Juanita (PPOC)

I was privileged to attend the IFGE convention in San Francisco, and had the opportunity to see history being made.

I believe that the time has come for the community to put its best face forward, in a positive and direct manner, and tell the world that there is absolutely nothing wrong, immoral, or degrading about being a crossdresser or a transsexual. To accomplish this at the local level would be hard but not impossible. How much better it is that we can pool our information with other members of the community and attack this thing with the strength of numbers.

There is a new spark of community that has emerged from this convention and I'm proud PPOC is a part of it.

-- Joan (PPOC)

On Wednesday the keynote speaker was Isadora Almon, a local talk show hostess, writer, and television commentator. She gave an excellent presentation with a dash of wit, humor, and loads of information. Later I learned that she was somewhat amazed at the responsiveness of the group, and that this was her first encounter with a group such as ours. The reaction to our community seems to usually be the same -- at first they are apprehensive and uncertain, but later on come to share the warmth, love, and sincerity that we extend.

Sunday was the wind-down day and saying sad farewells to new and old friendships. Somehow, I really wish there was a better way to end conventions.

-- Brenda (CGS)

For me the highlight of the convention was a meeting with Jose Sarria. Jose is affectionately known in San Francisco's community and the gay community of the U.S. as "The Widow Norton." Truly the first Empress, and founder of the Imperial Court system in more than 50 North American cities, he is a person with more lore, charm and historical perspective than one could imagine. For more than 28 years I have been indebted to "Mamma" without ever ever having the opportunity to tell her. "When did you first know you were different?" is a question that ultimately gets asked of all of us. Equally important is, "When did you first decide to do something about it?" For this gal, it was 1960 when I first saw a San Francisco "hell-raiser" in black tights and flame-red high heels waiting tables at the Black Cat restaurant. At that precise moment I realized people could go out dressed in public. For me, seeing Jose carrying on was when I decided to do something about it. To finally meet her 28 years later was like meeting the mother who gave you up at birth.

The IFGE's courage to bring people such as Jose, the late Christine Jorgensen and others to their conventions is but a single example of their excellent foresight and commitment. For that courage they should be applauded and we should do everything in our power to make sure that the organization continues and grows in all directions

-- Kay (ETVC)

I am grateful for the humbling opportunity given to this GG (genetic girl, as my type is called) to see so many extraordinary people so openly, so lovingly, so bravely being themselves.

-- Isadora Almon

The Quote of the Convention: "I don't know what you are all on, but whatever it is, I wish they would pass it around. I have never seen people have as much fun!" (-- A S.F.P.D. sergeant in Zims at 3:00 a.m.)

PHOTO ALBUM
"COMING TOGETHER 1989"

Photo credits:
Mariette Pathy Allen
Wendi Danielle Pierce
Ren`ee Chevalier
Ralph Crawford

Cartoons:
Christine Jane Wilson

L-R: Bette Lee Johnson (Convention Coordinator), Merissa Sherrill Lynn (Convention Director), Yvonne Cook (Convention Finance Coordinator) with the San Franciscan Hotel staff

"Your money please!"
Registration: Elizabeth L. (Sigma Epsilon)

ETVC Host Committee Coordinators: L-R Ginny Knuth, Tara Tenille, Nancy Ann Martine

R Kim Hellman (ETVC) TS Program Coordinator

Ren`ee Chevalier (TGIC) Convention Staff Coordinator

L-R Linda Walker (Outreach, Cover Portrait #51), Tara Tenille (Rep Janus Society)

Karen Baumgardner (CGS, IFGE Board of Directors)

Cheryl Thompson (Rep DCEA)

Jo & Kathy R. (Reps Neutral Corner)

Sr Mary Elizabeth (Rep J2CP)

L-R: Joan Sheldon (RGA, Alt IFGE Board of Directors, Gloria Peters, (RGA, Presentor)

L-R: Sheila Kirk (TransPitt, Banquet & Luncheons Coordinator), Merissa Sherrill Lynn (Convention Director), Isadora Almon (Wednesday's Keynote Speaker)

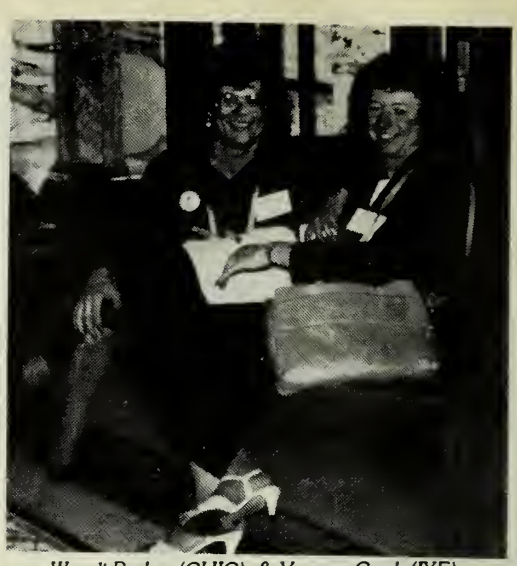
Robin Esch (Tiffany, Programs Coordinator)

Michelle (ETVC)

Linda Buten (Rep CrossPort)

Carol Albertson (TGIC)

Brenda Dwyer (Tiffany, Registration Coordinator) (and Sci-Fi nut!)



Wendi Parker (CHIC), & Yvonne Cook (IXE)

Josephine Williamson (Rep, Serenity),
Joan Elizabeth Goodnight (Rep, PPOC)

L-R: Lisa, Jill, Kim,
Donna, (GIC Denver,
Coordinators
Host Committee 1991)

Merissa Sherrill Lynn (IFGE Executive Director), & Lynda Frank (Alt IFGE Board of Directors)

Mary Fairfax (Tau Chi), Diane Ingram (Rep, Alpha Zeta), Jane Ellen Fairfax (Rep, Tau Chi)

Fran (NWGA), & Ellen Summers (NWGA, Chrprsn, IFGE Nominations Committee)

L-R: Dr. Richard F. Docter (author of "Transvestites and Treanssexuals, Toward a Theory of Cross-Gender Behavior), Janice Rupard (Rep, Boulton & Park), & Jose Sarria (Saturday's Keynote Speaker, AKA The Widow Norton,)

Dorothy Anne Finch (Rep, Cornbury Society), & Wendy Parker (Mister Sister)

Bobbi Alyson (Rep, IXE)

L-R: Sheila Kirk (TransPitt, IFGE Board of Directors), Niela Miller & Dr. Roger Peo (Co-coordinators of the Professional Program), Jan Rupard (Boulton & Park, Alt IFGE Board of Directors)

L-R: Martina Bloom (ETVC Registration), & Nancy Ann Martine (ETVC, Alt, IFGE Board of Directors). "You should see these two Gals in color! PHEW! Martina's dress is a brilliant emerald green satin, and Nancy's is a flaming red satin."

L-R: Merissa S. Lynn (Convention Director), & Dr. Stan Dale (Thursday Keynote Speaker)

Micheline Johnson (Rep, Transition Support)

Melissa Foster (PPOC)

The "Mister Sister" Band. L-R: Ginny Burlton (guitar, vocals), Janet Edwards (drums), Wendy Parker (keybord, vocals)

Jose Sarria (AKA The Widow Norton)

Donna Freeman (ETVC, Registration)
Diane Ingram (Alpha Zeta, Alt IFGE Board of Directors)

Mrs. Shufflewick

Emily Stees (DCEA), &
Betty Ann Lind (Outreach, IFGE Board of Directors)

Michelle (ETVC)
"Gobble 'dem vittles down, Sport!"

"Passing the IFGE Football"
L-R: Robin Esch, Karen Neilsen, & Denise Jeffreys (Tiffany Club Host Committee, 1990), Merissa Sherrill Lynn (Convention Director), Ginny Knuth & Nancy Ann Martine (ETVC Host Committee, 1989)

L-R: Karen Neilsen, Stephanie Chandler, Diannah Porter, & Denise Jeffreys (Tiffany Club Host Committee, 1990)

Seated L-R: Stephanie Chandler, Denise Jeffreys
Standing L-R: Josephine Williamson (Rep, Serenity), Tammi McIntyre (Rep, Crossroads), & Holly Cross (Tiffany, IFGE Board of Directors)

The Pros, L-R: Dr. Millie Brown (Presentor), Dr. Roger Peo & Neila Miller (Co-coordinators Professional Program), Roxanne Cherry

Irene Rubinsky (Rep, NOVA), Laura Cauldwell

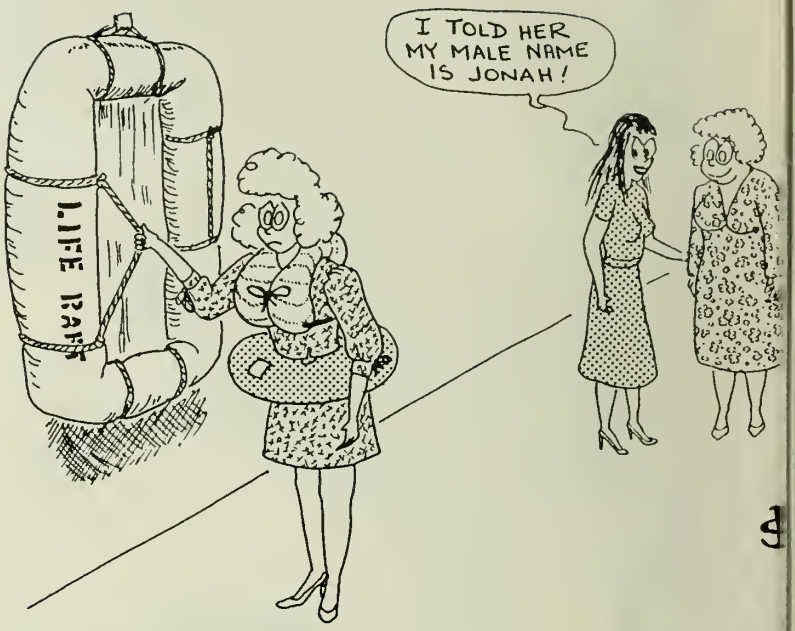
L-R: Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Isadora Almon, Bette Ann Johnson, Ellen Summers

Ginny Knuth
(ETVC Host Committee 1989 Co-coordinator)

Dan Riley (Rep, F_2M), Irene Rubinski (Rep, NOVA)

"I understand the only reason Virginia came was because they named the boat after her."

Winnie Brant (Rep, TGIC)



Bette Lee Johnson (Dallas Chapter, IFGE Board of Directors)
Samantha W. (Dallas Chapter, IFGE Board of Directors)

Charlotte Cady (Rep, A Rose)

"The San Francisco Bay Social Club"
L-R: Joan Sheldon (RGA), Dorothy Finch (Cornbury), Betsy (ETVC), Ellen Summers (NWGA), Glenda Rene Jones (Rep, Fiesta)

"Well, they did name the boat after her. The least they can do is let her drive it."

Holly Cross, Neila Miller

L-R: Elaine H. (Cover Portrait #54), Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Rachel Ball (Rep, CGS), Bobbi Alyson (Rep, IXE,), (?)

BOY! - AM I GONNA MAKE AN ENTRANCE!

Presentation of the "Dr. Virginia Prince Outstanding Service Award". L-R: Dr. Virginia Prince (Recipient 1987), Ariadne Kane (Recipient 1989), Merissa Sherrill Lynn (Recipient 1988)

PSYCHOLOGY

(Tomye Kelley M.A., is a psychotherapist specializing in work with the gender conflicted and with crossdressers and their significant others. All written communication should be directed to: **Tomye Kelley M.A., Executive Director, Institute for Gender Study and Treatment, Box 715, Arvada, CO. 80001 (303) 420-9885**)

STAGES OF RESOLUTION WITH SPOUSES

By: Tomye Kelley, M.A.

(The author wishes to acknowledge the helpful input of Stephanie L., a spouse who led the Spouse's Group at the Gender Identity Center of Colorado for five years. Her willingness to read this article during its formative stages and offer valuable contributions has insured a more fully accurate article.)

The observable stages that spouses pass through, from first discovering or being told that their husband dresses in women's clothing, to the point that some form of resolution takes place, are as predictable as those steps described by Kubler-Ross in her work on death and dying (denial, anger, bargaining, depression, acceptance).

Frequently, the manner in which she was told appears almost calculated to create the worst possible outcome. The husband may reason that the best way to tell her is to just spring the whole picture on her, like removing adhesive tape from the body - you're aware that the process is going to hurt, so it's "better" to get the pain over, all at once. This approach doesn't work very well with wives around this issue, however. Even so, the husband may simply get fully crossdressed and present himself to his wife.

Timing may also be a critical issue. A frequently chosen time to tell the wife is during her pregnancy or at the time that she has just delivered a baby. The crossdressing husband explains his poor choice of timing by saying that he felt envious of her pregnancy, that he views pregnancy as the highest form of "femaleness". He may also have a feeling of being overwhelmed by the qualities of maternity that are attendant to the birth of a child. He may delude himself into believing that by telling his wife at just this point in time, they will be able to "join" in a mutual sharing of the physical and emotional experience of giving birth.

I have never talked with a wife who either shared these fantasies, or who appreciated such timing. The wives, to a woman, have expressed a wide variety of negative reactions. Women are deeply in touch with a need to be nurtured, comforted and supported during pregnancy and delivery. They expect the entire focus to be on the job they are doing, and having a "hale and hardy" man try to "muscle in" on this well-earned glory does not set well with any woman I have ever known. The women invariably express anger, disgust, and a feeling of having been trapped. Recovery from this type of poor timing is most difficult.

Another technique that seems frequently used is one we might call "clues" in which items of clothing are "accidentally" left around to be discovered. These are items that the spouse knows do not belong to herself. When this technique is used, the wife may assume her husband is having an affair. To make matters worse, it appears to be taking place in her own home. If she can be dissuaded from that thought, the only other option is that if it is not another woman, then it must be another man - that her husband is homosexual. To use either of these techniques to tell, only causes trouble - unnecessary trouble. Much time and effort will have to be put into the relationship to correct the mistaken ideas and damage that this technique will create.

Now, let's take a look at the way the wives react to the discovery that they are married to a man who has a compulsion to dress in women's clothing. Some wives use the issue of crossdressing to escape an already ailing marriage. If the marriage is already having problems, but there has been no real issue on which to justify a separation or divorce, the issue of crossdressing becomes a welcome scapegoat. If she chooses to explain to friends or relatives, the cause of the breakup she will, undoubtedly, have everyone's sympathy!

If, however, the relationship is healthy or has even **some** positive things about it, if both partners, or even if **either** partner, can find enough reasons to want to

stay together, the first step in the spouse's process of resolution may begin to appear.

STAGE #1 -- OVER ADAPTATION.

The significant other's first reaction may be relief. If she had seen clues, the initial fear of his involvement with someone else is relieved by the discovery that he is "only dressing in women's clothing". She may feel overwhelmed by relief. Compared to her worst fears, crossdressing seems almost harmless.

Before she has had time to examine what his crossdressing may mean to the relationship, she may feel the need to make premature assurances. She may tell her husband that if crossdressing is all that is troubling him, she can certainly deal with that!

She may be willing to attend a support group meeting with him. Or, she may attend a spouse's group meeting, where she may assure the other spouses she has no problem with her husband being a crossdresser. She may be willing to go shopping, either for him or (sometimes) with -- even while he is dressed as a woman. The husband usually accepts all of this at face value. He marvels at how fortunate he is; he has a wife who accepts, therefore understands!

To the husband, the overcompensating spouse may seem to be enjoying the whole thing. She may, indeed, be giving these messages by offering to help with his hair, his make-up, clothing selection, etc. However, her actual feelings may be quite different.

WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THE WIFE: She's scared. She was more scared when she thought she was going to lose her husband to another woman or to homosexuality. Those two options made it appear as though she had already lost. Her sense of tremendous relief comes from the realization that she has not lost her mate; as a matter of fact, the secret that she now shares with him may actually reinforce the relationship. After all, he is now locked into the relationship with her, for with whom else can he share such an "unspeakable secret"? All of her energies may now be directed toward not merely acceptance, but encouragement of his self expression. She feels a driving need for him to realize just how accepting she really is.

And, if she can play the part well enough, maybe it will become true.

STAGE #2 -- THINKING IT OVER.

This second step may come in a matter of weeks, but it is more likely to be a matter of months. The crossdresser will have enjoyed the openness, the companionship, the acceptance of which he had dreamed -- that which he never thought could happen, has happened! Eventually, he becomes saturated with the crossdressing, at least momentarily. If he feels he can dress whenever he wants, he begins to lose the sense of continuous urgency. He is feeling safer and more secure -- lucky, in fact!

However, his wife is not sharing this same sense of safety and security. Only now does she begin to see the whole issue with some perspective. Now she may begin to look for causality. She begins to deal with thoughts of... Is this my fault?... If I'd just been a better wife?... If I'd been a better lover?

Then she moves on to the next questions. What is our future as a couple?... Will he act more effeminate, at times, before others, causing me embarrassment?... If others find out, what will they think of me?... Others will surely find out!... Am I losing the **man** I married?... If he's going to take the woman's role, then what is my role to become?

More personally, her questions may be: If he wants me to treat him like a woman in bed, what does that make me?... A man?... A lesbian?... When do I get **my** sexual needs met, if he's taking the woman's role in bed?

Her attitude begins to change. She may have closed herself off from her gender support group by her early pronouncements of unqualified acceptance of the crossdressing. The other wives in the support group may not be very tolerant toward her change of heart. Actually, she's only now beginning to give herself permission to be in touch with her own feelings. But she has already expressed to her support group and to her husband her absolute acceptance of his crossdressing, impulsively. Changing such an extreme position as she had taken in the matter causes herself, her husband, and her support group problems. The others may feel resentment toward her, doubts about her sincerity.

However, given enough time her attitudes will surface in the relationship. Her silence and withdrawal may be the first indication. For the reasons discussed, she may find it hard to talk about her change of attitude. He may not be willing to open up a discussion of the subject because he's experienced what felt to him like understanding and acceptance. He'd rather remain passive and hope that the changes in her mood will pass. We now have a couple locked in silence.

During this period there may be quite a bit of fighting. Neither of the partners can afford to talk about what is really going on with them, so they displace the anger and frustration to other irritants that are always present in a relationship and non-related quarrels break out.

It's the wife who usually breaks the stalemate. She may appear either angry or apologetic, and she may say something like, "I thought I could handle this, but now I see that I can't." This statement is usually followed by either an apology, tears, or an ultimatum -- "Either give up

the women's clothing or you lose me and the kids!"

STAGE #3 -- OPEN BATTLE.

She feels like a fool. She may feel that somehow, she's not sure how, she's been tricked into saying and doing things that are unthinkable to her. She's sorry that she ever went along with such a bizarre set of activities. At the same time, she feels guilty because she feels caught and trapped in her own first response. Sometimes she feels so guilty from all this conflict that the only resolution that she can see is escape; separation, maybe divorce.

As the male crossdresser grows older, the need and the drive for the clothing and for the total image of being woman, intensifies. The changes that she sees may be simply the progression of the compulsion to crossdress.

For whatever reason, the spouse may see the feelings and the behaviors beginning to affect every phase of the couple's life and activities. It may be proving to be a very expensive activity -- he may be spending more for his female wardrobe than the wife is spending on her own.

The wives report feeling of betrayal, feeling as though they have been lied to, cheated, and finally, just plain angry. It is an almost impossible task, in therapy, to convince the wife that her husband didn't know, himself, all along, the depth of his entanglement. Divorce may once again appear imminent.

The pendulum has swung too far in the other direction. Her judgment has been damaged. She is not thinking clearly. This is when open battle may occur. Both partners are fighting to avoid a trap. The husband feels that he has been handed a prize, and then had it snatched away from him. He is confused and determined not to lose what he had gained. The wife is also confused and having difficulty understanding how she got herself into this Catch 22!

STAGE #4 -- BLACKMAIL.

The wife, fearing she's lost the battle, turns to forms of blackmail. There's just no nice word for it, and the threats may go like this:

"Look what you are doing to us. If you don't stop, I'll leave you!"

"What do you think the kids will think? They will hate you and you will never see them again!"

"How can you do this to you (mother, father, son, daughter, etc.)?"

"You'll never have a job again in your life! I'll see to it that everyone knows!"

If this fails to work, her anger somewhat spent, the wife may give up the attack for reconciliation. This may be the first point at which outside help is sought. Now, the spouse's words may sound like this:

"God will understand and forgive. You must counsel with our (minister, priest, rabbi)."

"Let's find a good therapist. I know the right one can cure you."

"We'll sell the house and move to the (country, coast, mountains, etc.)."

"The children are almost grown. The stress and demands of our financial needs will soon ease and the need to crossdress will just go away."

"We're getting older. Sex isn't that important anymore. Your need to crossdress will just go away too."

Of course, the problem is, **none** of these statements are true.

STAGE #5 -- NEGOTIATIONS.

All else having failed, the couple may now be ready to look at the quality of their relationship and at what each of them really want. Now, perhaps for the first time, they are ready to look at options and consider the many different ways they might be able to make this situation work for them.

STAGE #6 -- RESOLUTION.

Now, with a good understanding of crossdressing and some idea of what the future may hold, the wife can decide how she feels about the whole thing. She can explore her own sense-or-self. She can learn to trust herself more fully and to more clearly establish her own parameters. She can learn to live within her own boundaries, even though they may not agree with other important people in her life. She may begin to understand that there is an extended continuum along which she may seek her own resolutions - a continuum that may vary from total acceptance and involvement, finding the crossdressing a fun and exciting addition to their sex life; the other end of the continuum may be compartmentalization in which she may say, "Crossdressing is something I find unacceptable. Although I care for my husband and I don't want to lose him, I want no part of the crossdressing." She may even say, "Find a location somewhere else where you can keep your things and do not involve me in any way in your crossdressing."

These stages are as predictable for the wives of the crossdresser as they are for the wives of the gender conflicted. It is important that the relationship not be dissolved or abandoned without full exploration of all of the issues. To divorce solely over the issue of crossdressing is too easy, frequently premature, and often times a real mistake. Crossdressing should not be used as a scapegoat.

- END -

THE MEDIA FROM BOTH SIDES NOW

By: Mariette Pathy Allen

(The Following keynote address was delivered by Mariette Pathy Allen, a professional photographer from New York City, during the 7th annual "Be All You Want To Be" Weekend held in Chicago, June 9, 1989.)

Naomi, once again, has made me grow! Every time I settle into complacency, Naomi startles me out of it. I remember clearly arriving in Chicago in the middle of a snowstorm a few years ago, amazed that the plane had actually chosen to land, when I saw the figure of Naomi approaching me from the distance, at a remarkably fast pace. "There's no time to lose," she announced. "We're due at Phyllis Levy's radio show in half an hour, and cars are getting stuck all over the place." Naturally we made it. As you can see, just looking around you, Naomi always succeeds - and I experienced the pleasures of speaking on the radio for two hours, especially pleasant since I had no time to anticipate or plan the event.

The very first large gathering I ever presented my work to was through Naomi's invitation, at my first "Be All" where I experienced a rush of enthusiasm, a rush that I have been searching for ever since. Now Naomi is putting me in the position of speaking to you without my slides... no images, and no darkness to hide behind. Thanks a lot Naomi!

Once I realized Naomi was serious about this talk, I had to ask myself, seriously, what is the secret draw of the media? Why does it wield so much power over us? We seem to have an almost insatiable need for people to listen to us, to give us their undivided attention, to feel understood. I think this need comes from childhood. Nobody ever feels they received enough attention, or the right kind, or if they did, then the present can't hold a candle to that euphoric state of being the center of the world. So, being watched or heard by thousands of people, one imagines being the center of the world. We want to make history, leave a mark, make a contribution, be remembered. At least, let it be documented that for one moment, we were really significant.

Media, primarily television, seems to be king nowadays, more powerful than the government. We are in awe of it, we worship it, we depend on it, and we want to be part of it. This tends to make us overly humble. It is imperative that we keep a sense of perspective, remembering that our passion stems from our deep-seated need for understanding attention, and that there are plenty of other ways of fulfilling those needs. Beyond that, we must keep in mind that they need us as subjects, news items, human interest stories, more than we need them. After all, if there were no guests, there'd be no talk shows, whereas, we'd all survive quite well without television.

We must not be naive when dealing with the media. Their power, their manipulative skill tends to make them arrogant and in control. If they want you on a show, they will attempt to make a deal with you, but if honoring their agreement is inconvenient, they will simply change things around and apologize later, while getting ready to exude a false sense of intimacy to the next set of guests.

Mariette Pathy Allen

One other thing to be aware of besides the basic unreliability of those in charge, is the drama of the controversial. Have any of you wondered why talk show hosts allow the most obnoxious members of the audience to continue to attack a guest? Because controversies - fights - are entertaining! Otherwise, what would be the draw of many sports? The Morton Downey show is probably the best example of controversy as entertainment. When the members of the Renaissance group were on, I watched with the conviction that I was seeing a re-run of the Early Christians being thrown to the lions.

To sum up, I'd like you to remember that members of the media, except for me, of course, are not your friends, that you may be completely surprised by the way things turn out, and that you should expect the drama of controversy. So, be prepared for anything to happen, take it lightly, and make sure to exploit the exploiters! Easier said than done, that I know.

Now having prepared you a little bit for the possibility of some bumpy rides, I'd like to tell you a little about my experiences with different forms of the media. I'd like for you to imagine me as Everywoman, someone naive and well-meaning, a believer in justice, just a run-of-the-mill Pollyanna... like you. Instead of becoming a computer whiz or an engineer, I am a photographer, which means that when I photograph people, I am, by definition, a voyeur. I depend on the collaboration with my subject to go from documentation to reaching the essence of that person. I am poaching on their essence. The collaboration requires great trust and openness, and, as always, it's a risk. Where there is intimacy, there is risk. There is further risk in that a photograph may live on, far longer than a television program, or a newspaper article. So, you may be remembered for the happiest moment of your life, or for the time you got your heels stuck in a grate and lost your temper. What if I took both pictures? Would you still trust me? Would I still respect myself? Is everything that exists fit to be photographed? Where do I draw the line, or do you, as my subject, draw it for me? And if you draw it for me, am I really serving you? So you see, I may be both the exploiter and the exploited.

Now, lets take this a step further. What happens when my work is used by other media? I feel responsible for wherever it shows up, whether it be in a magazine, a newspaper, a television show, a book, or a gallery. What point will it illustrate? How will it be interpreted? Can I control its interpretation? If so, is it propaganda, or hopefully, the truth as I see it?

I'd like to give you some brief glimpses into my experiences with each of these media. Remember, I am Everywoman, making mistakes and learning, and wanting to share these with you. Oddly enough, the issue of titles, of how things are called, turns out to be a major issue in many cases. So, let me begin on that theme.

Textbooks: What do I do when they want to put my pictures of you in the "Abnormal Sexuality" chapters of psychology textbooks? I give mini-lectures and tell them that my pictures can't be used unless the material is presented in a positive way. My logic is that at least the pictures will be positive and perhaps that will counterbalance the chapter heading.

I began my long and fascinating stint free-lancing at Penthouse-Forum through an article I wrote on the mates of crossdressers. My editor loved it but insisted that it be called, "I married a Transvestite!". My husband, Ken, whose total experience in crossdressing consists of making a preying mantis costume, looked worried. Finally, my editor suggested that we put the title in quotation marks, to which Ken reluctantly agreed.

The title problem can be more serious than that. When American Photographer decided to do an article about my work with you, I was assigned a superb editor to work with. We worked beautifully together, and she read back to me everything she wrote, so I knew the article would be just right. Then she told me titles were not within her domain - they were created by a special department. Before I could do anything about it, the article came out entitled, "Gender Pretenders", exactly the opposite in tone and meaning of the article itself.

Now, with <u>the</u> book - I think you know which one that is - when Dutton signed the contract, they insisted that the title and the cover be changed from what it is on the dummy. It was called, "The Woman Who Lives Inside" and subtitled, "Portraits of Men As Women", and had a very subtle picture on the cover of Sherry in a lacy white blouse looking down at her reflection in a mirrored table. There is no eye contact with the audience, but Sherry looks very feminine above the table, and masculine in her reflection. My editor wanted to call the book, "Transformations: Men Who Dress As Women" and use images of someone as a man and as a woman. I was never happy with this title, because it seems rather superficial. However, even though in the course of the last year I must have made over twenty title suggestions, my editor was stuck on "Transformations".

In the middle of the night, in March, I woke up with a great start. Although I was in California, it wasn't an earthquake, it was a realization. My book is about relationships, about families and friends. I have taken your image out of isolation and darkness into the daylight of everyday life. Shouldn't that be in the title? Now, the title of the book is still "Transformations", but the subtitle is, "Crossdressers and Those Who Love Them". However, the cover was still a problem. The pictures of the person we chose were fine, but the art director's layout was horrible, making the whole think look like a textbook. Before I could present my own design for the cover, which I had worked out with the help of a brilliant friend, my editor told me that they had decided to go back to my original cover, the portrait of Sherry. Now tell me, does

the cover and the title make sense together? I truly hope so, because this is it!

To conclude my series on title problems, gallery exhibitions should be problem free, wouldn't you think? After all, I can decide what I hang and what I call a show. When I had an exhibition in New York in '84, a transsexual refused to be in the show unless I hung all the images of transsexuals together and labelled them. So, eager to please, I made three signs, 'Transsexuals', Crossdressers', and 'Drag Artists'. A wonderful group of performers called "Bloolips" came to see the show and were deeply offended. "You've treated everyone as if they were a clinical study by putting those labels on!"

"What should I have done?" I asked, mortified.

"You should have just made a portrait show and included all kinds of people in it!" You know, I believe they were right, and I hope that someday nothing will need explanation, and I can have a show like that.

When I had the exhibitions in Italy, there was no accurate translation for the word "crossdresser'. "Travestiti", which actually means "travesty", something false, is synonymous with homosexual. So the galleries solved it, inaccurately but with the best intentions, by referring to crossdressers as "heterosexual transvestites".

In 1986, right before leaving for the exhibition in Milan, I received a call from Naomi, letting me know that Donahue was doing a show on crossdressers, and suggested that I stick around and try to get on it. Since I was supposed to fly to Paris on my way to milan before his show, I asked Harold Feinstein, my photography mentor and astrologer what I should do. "It looks like you'll get on the show," he said, "but it's going to be one mixed-up day!" In spite of Phil Donahue's sensible attitude, some members of the audience were as poisonous as any to be found on the Morton Downey Show. Still, I had the privilege of presenting some of my photographs on the show, and speaking my bit, and really felt elated as I rushed to the airport with my passport, tickets, and assorted luggage. When I got to the gate, I was jolted out of my reverie by a voice in a dark blue suit. "Let me see your visa," it seemed to say. Visa? To France? I'm not going to Egypt. Just France! "New regulations. Don't you read the papers?" Harold was right again. It was a mixed up day... In fact, I didn't leave for another two days.

In spite of the visa problem, I felt good about my treatment on the Donahue show, and when I was approached by CNN, I was excited, enthusiastic, and naive. I sent about twenty prints with captions, and some written material. Sonya Friedman's assistants were charming and intelligent. They asked me if someone else who had appeared in the American Photographer article could appear on the show with me. I asked Naomi, who graciously agreed. Then I got obsessed with my appearance. I bought a new dress, and had a make-up artist work on me. When he finished, I looked like a stranger. The stranger went off to the studio in New York, Naomi took her seat in Chicago, and Sonya queried us from L.A. Nothing the charming assistants told me turned out to be true. The session turned out to be Sonya Friedman playing psychologist, commending Naomi for her courage and good grace, absolutely true, but putting me in the situation of being a vile person for photographing children with their crossdressed fathers. When photographs appeared, they were the same four, shown over and over, cropped and left unexplained. From this infuriating experience, I hope I have learned to continue to look like myself, to expect the unexpected and be prepared for some controversy.

Never, never, never could I have expected the kind of controversy that I met when I was honored with a grant from the New York State Council on the Arts!

When I got it, Harold said, "This grant is going to be much more far-reaching than you suspect." On March 16th, 1987, I woke up to the telephone ringing, which is what it did almost non-stop for the next two days. It was Darrell, whom some of you know... "Mariette, that's brilliant!" he said. "Most people never make the cover of any newspaper in their entire lives." Huh? "Didn't you know? You're on the cover of The New York Post!" HUH?

I raced to the closest newsstand to discover the screaming headlines of the Post, "**TAX DOLLARS PAYING FOR MEN IN DRAG!**" And sure enough, there was a photo of me and another of Naomi, minus the bicycle. I felt that my world had just ended. I would lose the confidence of the entire community, I would lose my publisher, and nobody would want to have anything to do with me.

I came home to find the telephone ringing, and luckily I picked it up. It was Alison calling me about something else. She got two words out, and I started to sob. Eventually she pieced a few of my words together, and reassured me that this might not be a tragedy. So, I sprang into action. I called Naomi. "Are you sitting down?" She assured me she was. "You and I are on the

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cover of the Post, and it isn't nice!" There was a moment of silence. "The Post? You mean the New York Post? Where can I get it in Chicago?" I felt a little better. Naomi hadn't fainted, and at least the Post wasn't popular in Chicago.

You all know the rest of the story by now so I'm not going to repeat it. But if anything brings home the points I was making earlier in this talk, I think this is it: The media needs us, we provide news and stories. We must not be naive, as it is so easy for the media to manipulate us, and controversy is entertainment, never mind at who's expense.

I don't want to leave you in this state of cynicism. I think it is important to be ready for anything and to keep going... to take things lightly while speaking the truth. Polyanna still exists in me and I wonder why nobody has ever taken that name. Why do all Pauls become Paulas?

I would like to end by speaking to those of us who are shy, and could not even imagine speaking in public. I have finally learned that I have a contribution to make, as does Everywoman, and that the only way that contribution can get out into the world is if I present it. So, the way to do that is to forget myself and to focus on the thing that must be expressed. If I am just the vehicle or the vessel through which this idea or art form or whatever, makes its way into the world, then I am focused on what is important to me rather than myself. Whether you are shy, self-confident, or exhibitionistic, please be generous with your gifts. I think we have reached the time when gender issues will finally become something Everyman will start to examine more honestly, and your issues will be their issues, and then, finally, not issues.

Thank you very much for listening to all this in the middle of a delightful lunch. What will you have me do next, Naomi?

- END -

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(John Armstrong is a peer-counselor, working with female-to-male TSs and CDs. He is the editor of the F/M newsletter "Rites of Passage" and is the founder of "F2M", the international, nonprofit anonymous support group based in New York City. John is actively seeking your comments and questions. You may write to him c/o S.G., P.O. Box 615, Tenafly, NJ 07670 or call him at (201) 224-7843. All communication is strictly confidential.)

F-M FRATERNITY

by John Armstrong

"Brothers United" ... (or) ...
"He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother"

It is my deeply held belief that our emotional (and often physical) well-being depends on the availability of personal interaction with others like ourselves. It is very beneficial to network, meet, and share our experiences, face-to-face.

For those of us who are pre-op (trying to find the right path), it is essential for educated decision-making. We desperately need to meet those who have gone before us. We need to hear the truth about surgery, therapy, costs, etc. (as opposed to the sugar-coated story that surgeons sell).

For our post-op brothers who are so well-hidden in society, anonymity is absolutely **required**. After surgery we are no longer transsexuals; we have become men. The post-op's hard-won manhood MUST be protected, but this should not stop us from meeting and communicating with our peers (as long as anonymity and confidentiality are assured). Even a post-op "lone wolf" will benefit from the unconditional love that exists between brothers who share the same traumatic beginnings.

For all of us, (post-op AND pre-op) our quality of life requires that we be perceived solely as genetic males, and we must disown our transsexuality to achieve this. "Disown" means two things: (a) To refuse to acknowledge as one's own; and (b) to reject all connection with.

The problem is, that this is a form of denial. Because we must deny our former gender-status to the world, it becomes essential for us to find some small, "safe" time and space where (for a few moments) we can quietly share our hidden thoughts and questions.

Because of the struggle we face, we undoubtedly have many important feelings. Because we were socialized as female, we usually have a strong need to express these feelings. Because we are men, we may have great difficulty "opening up". It often seems that we cannot (indeed, perhaps we SHOULD not) open up completely to any one who is not a peer. No one understands and emphasizes like a brother; and whether we admit it or not, we all NEED understanding.

If you have never been in a room full of anonymous (safe) brothers, sharing that incredible sense of acceptance and positive self-affirmation, you owe it to yourself to try it.

You will have to seek it out, though. It's not easy to find such a group. The only fairly large groups I know of are "F$_2$M" on the east coast and "FTM" out west. But there are smaller groups out there (including Philadelphia and Massachusetts).

It took me more than three years of aggressive outreach to get "F$_2$M" going. We now have about thirty

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members (internationally) and we are growing slowly and steadily. But even if you can only find one or two brothers in your locale, that friendship will prove invaluable (provided you totally respect each other's confidentiality and anonymity). With a little effort and initiative you will find your fraternity ... but that means getting off your butt, and throwing away your fear of reaching out! It's hard to trust others with your secret; but peers CAN be trusted because we all have an equal stake in not being "revealed". It's not a matter of risking a career or relationships ... it is the integrity of our very identity that is at stake.

On a personal note ... when I first discovered that gender-reassignment was possible for genetic females (about 4 1/2 years ago), I knew immediately that it was the answer to my prayers. I had been living as a man (without hormones) for many years. I had no knowledge of Dr. Benjamin's "Standards of Care", but I came up with what I felt would be my best course of action. I decided that (#1) I should go into therapy with a gender-specialist (and be totally honest about everything), just to be sure (as if there was ever any question!!). (#2) I would have to meet others like me, and find out the inside story. (#3) I would start taking hormones. (#4) I would have surgery.

I felt it would be absurd to begin such a serious undertaking without meeting a few people who had already been through it all. Well ... it took me almost two years to find a gender-specialist and an F/M organization (which was in Canada!), three years to start hormones, and about four years to have a peer-support group to go to (which I had to create myself!). In that four years, my need to meet and learn from my brothers became so great that I have been making myself available by telephone (and mail) to provide virtually unlimited free peer-counseling. And, I KNOW that I get almost as much out of counseling my peers, as they get from being counseled.

So ... I am hereby extending this personal invitation to each individual brother out there (regardless of any other organizational affiliations you may have) to join "F_2M". It's free, if you can't afford to contribute. As anonymous individuals hiding behind our macho fears we have little power, but as a large group of anonymous individuals we can lobby politically and use our leverage to influence/enlighten helping professionals and others, as well as getting merchandisers to give our members a group discount. Also, hopefully in the near future our non-profit status will become official.

Finally, let me share some of the insight I have gained, concerning those issues that seem to be of greatest interest to us.

Our most crucial issues involve how to make informed decisions concerning the complex and mystifying fact/fiction of surgery. In particular, phallo- and genitoplasty, but also chest contouring (creation of a masculine chest as opposed to standard female mastectomy), and hysterectomy (requiring special surgical methods). We are also concerned with identifying "butchers" and "chop shops".

Our other favorite subjects are: (a) the long term effects of testosterone therapy (and whether or not pills are safe); (b) how to initiate and establish intimate (sexual) relationships; and (c) the importance (or unimportance) of possessing a penis (functional or otherwise).

I hope that my words will stir your thoughts and that you will grab a pen and jot down some notes (however brief) asking your own personal questions and expressing your feelings on the issues I've discussed; safe in the knowledge that your privacy will be fully protected.

Yours in brotherhood, John A.

- END -

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J2CP Info Services

J2CP Information Services provides information/referral services formerly provided by the Erickson Educational Foundation, JANUS Information Facility, Renaissance: Gender Identity Services, and CORISTA, and educational outreach to church groups, media, and academia. The purpose of the latter is to promote greater understanding among all levels of society.

J2CP provides an information package consisting of pamphlets and literature relating to gender dysphoria syndrome, in particular transsexualism. This information package is available for a donation of $30.00, to cover the cost of research, printing, first-class postage, and secretarial services.

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(The author of this article would like to acknowledge Jolynne White, who introduced Lily to the Tapestry, and encouraged and helped her shape this article.)

Through the Looking Glass-- Cross-dressing in American Indian Culture

By: Michael-Lily

REDISCOVERING AMERICA

How many of us have wished for a different world... one in which cross-dressing could be more open... in which we might even be valued as richer than average personalities, with a contribution to make to society as a whole? "Ha!" you say, "stop dreaming, girl, and file your nails!" It does sound impossible, doesn't it, but in fact there was such a world, and oddly enough it was right here on this continent--before we got here!

In 1986, Walter Williams published an in depth study of transvestism among the American Indians (who prefer to be called Native Americans). Titled "THE SPIRIT AND THE FLESH" (Boston: Beacon Press), his book uncovers a tradition that was viciously suppressed by the Europeans, and has therefore been forgotten or else deeply hidden on the reservations today. Although I will summarize some main points for you here, this book remains a worthy addition to any TV or TS's reading list.

HALF-AND-HALF PERSONS: THEIR ROLE IN THE TRIBES

Navaho creation myths tell of five worlds (SPIRIT, p. 19). The initial two were bleak. First Man and First Woman lived unhappily in their separate worlds. In the third world, however, they met the twins Turquoise Boy and White Shell Girl. Both of these persons were "**nadles**," meaning "those who change or transform." Whether these were physical hermaphrodites or cross-dressers is not clear to me. What is clear, however, is that pottery, farming, tools, weaving, and smoking pipes were all gifts given by the **nadle** twins to the people. In crossing the gender boundaries, Navahos believe, the twins had entered a realm of abundant creativity. Their role was to spread this abundance freely among the people. Before they arrived, times were tough.

Now it came to pass, later on in the third world, as the men realized that Turquoise Boy could do women's work, that they went apart from the women, across a big river. The two sexes lived apart for a while, each with their own kind of **nadle**. Eventually, however, all saw that this separation was a bad thing, and the women asked the men to come back. (Were the men perhaps too proud to ask, I wonder?) After they had reunited, a great flood came upon the third world. Just in time, Turquoise Boy found a huge, hollow reed. Through this, all the people were able to climb up into the fourth world, but, for some reason, could not stay. Then White Shell Girl found the reed entrance, and the people climbed through once again, into the fifth world, which is our own.

As Williams points out (SPIRIT, p. 20), such stories suggest that the very survival of humanity is related to the inventiveness of the **nadles**. Another example is Zuni myth (SPIRIT p. 18), in which a "transformed one," a "**Lhamana**," first unites hunting and farming. However, the Navaho tale also introduces us to another central theme in the Native American view of cross-dressing. Its function is not to split the people. it is rather to mediate between the two sexes, to provide a halfway house responsive to both sides of the gender boundary, to keep the two genders from becoming overly polarized.

In Lakota Sioux, the word for a male-bodied cross dresser was "**winkte**." It is a contraction describing a person who "would become woman." Asked to describe **winktes**, Lakota people reach for phrases like "half and half person," "half-man, half-woman" (SPIRIT, p. 76), or else "twin-souled person" (Ruth Beebe Hill, HANTA YO, Warner Books, 1980). Underlying this, and the names given to cross dressers in many other Native American languages, is a viewpoint profoundly different from our own. To these people, it is the inner, not-necessarily-obvious, spiritual reality of all things that is important (SPIRIT, pp 18-22). Sometimes, the Great Spirit (a better translation of this, by the way, is the "Great Mysterious") sends female spirits into male bodies, or vice versa. Sometimes it sends dual souls, and the outer gender role switches more than once during a lifetime. But since it is the spirit, not the flesh, that is crucial, this is alright. Indeed, as we have seen, it is more than alright. It is

necessary for the balance of the world itself. Since our culture focuses on the mechanical body as the primary reality, it has trouble taking such a view.

This brings us now to a third major characteristic of **nadles** and **winktes** in the tribal world. Because they are persons in which the spirit has actually overpowered the flesh, they were thought to be holy and sacred beings. Just as they stand between the men and the women, so too they occupy a territory somewhere between the spirit realm and the physical world (SPIRIT, p. 41). Once again, then, we find them acting as mediators. Quite often, though not always, they were shamans, healers, tellers of the future through dreams. Medicines they excelled at particularly were magical songs, help with love and romance, and the sacred craftwork of both genders. Perhaps because the Great Mysterious had already led them successfully across one taboo boundary, the tribes sometimes called upon them to help out in other situations considered dangerous--such as death rites (SPIRIT, pp. 36, 68, 186), or healing on war parties (SPIRIT, p. 35).

Life in Native American homes involved much give and take among large groups of relatives. Children often visited or were actually raised by persons other than their blood parents. A fourth characteristic of "twin-souled," or "half-and-half persons" was that they played a large, central role in the daily activities of these extended families. Male-bodied cross-dressers were, as we have seen, usually inventive, gifted in the arts and crafts. Buoyed up by a positive perception of their condition, they emerged typically as industrious, flexible managers of thriving households (SPIRIT, pp.57-61). Intimate knowledge of both gender roles made them excellent teachers of the young. A Navaho woman says, "**Nadles** are also seen as being great with children, real Pied Pipers. Children love **Nadles**..." (SPIRIT, p. 54). I like to think of this part of native cross-dressing as the "parents not pariahs" feature, but, however we express it, we see here yet another stunning reversal of our own condition: **Winktes** were the very bulwarks of family life.

There is much more in THE SPIRIT AND THE FLESH than we can cover here. Cross-dressers had interesting roles in sexual activities of many Native Americans, for example. On the other hand, some tribes found no special significance in gender shift whatever, and still others did not tolerate it. Some very conservative elders today feel that the dominant culture cannot possibly understand these ancient and sacred traditions, and that it was wrong for them to be revealed at all. This, and considerably more, I leave to your own enjoyment of Williams' readable, well-documented book.

REDISCOVERING OURSELVES

We come now to a most interesting question: What does this all mean to us? A very old, very nearly lost tradition has been uncovered, and -- surprise! -- we find ourselves at the center of it. In it, **we** are channels for creative abundance, crucial mediators between the two sexes, priestly figures with many sacred functions, and paragons of family life. To many of us, this may seem like fantastic, impossible nonsense. After all, the gentlest term most people apply to us is something like "confused," and the rougher classifications descend all the way to "deviate" and "pervert." Is it possible for two such opposing viewpoints to describe the same slice of reality? Should we just get on with choosing a nail polish and dismiss this lunacy?

Let's first address the question about reality. Can there be any truth in this high-minded, idealistic native description of our condition as cross-dressers? If there is, why don't we see more of it in our own lives?

Psychologists and doctors have long been aware of something they call the "placebo effect." Give ten people sugar tablets and tell them it is medicine for their disease, and some of them will actually get well on it. People's beliefs can have a powerful impact on events we would normally think of as beyond their control. Although we do not understand the mechanisms involved in it, the existence of this effect has been documented too will to question.

What I have always found puzzling, however, is that no one seems to talk about the other side of this coin -- the dark side of it, you might say. Give ten people sugar pills and tell them it's flu virus and, before long, some of them will be running fevers and sniffling. Just to have a name for it, let's call this the "voodoo effect." Whatever makes the "power of suggestion" work, it obviously does not filter good from bad. So, if the "placebo effect" is real, so is the "voodoo effect."

From the early days of television, I recall a very interesting program. It was an hour-long drama, quite well done, the purpose of which was to show that an old saying might not be true. The adage in question was, "In the valley of the blind, the one-eyed man is king." What happened in the program, as the story developed, was this: A young child begins life with sight, among elders who have no such faculty. When she claims to know things without hearing or feeling anything, the parents react disparagingly. "Don't be silly dear, you have to go and **feel** things," they say. As she grows, instead of accepting and using her gift, the blind people around her increase their opposition. They fear her. After years of rejection and negative propaganda about her ability, the young woman comes to believe she is insane. In the last scene, she is depicted ignoring her visual ability completely, going out to do as she was told, and feel things.

This brings us then to a fundamental observation about transvestism in the two cultures we are considering. In our world, from birth on, with few exceptions, our cross-dressing has been suppressed and deformed by a heavy voodoo effect. In the native tradition, from birth on, with few exceptions, their cross-dressing was encour-

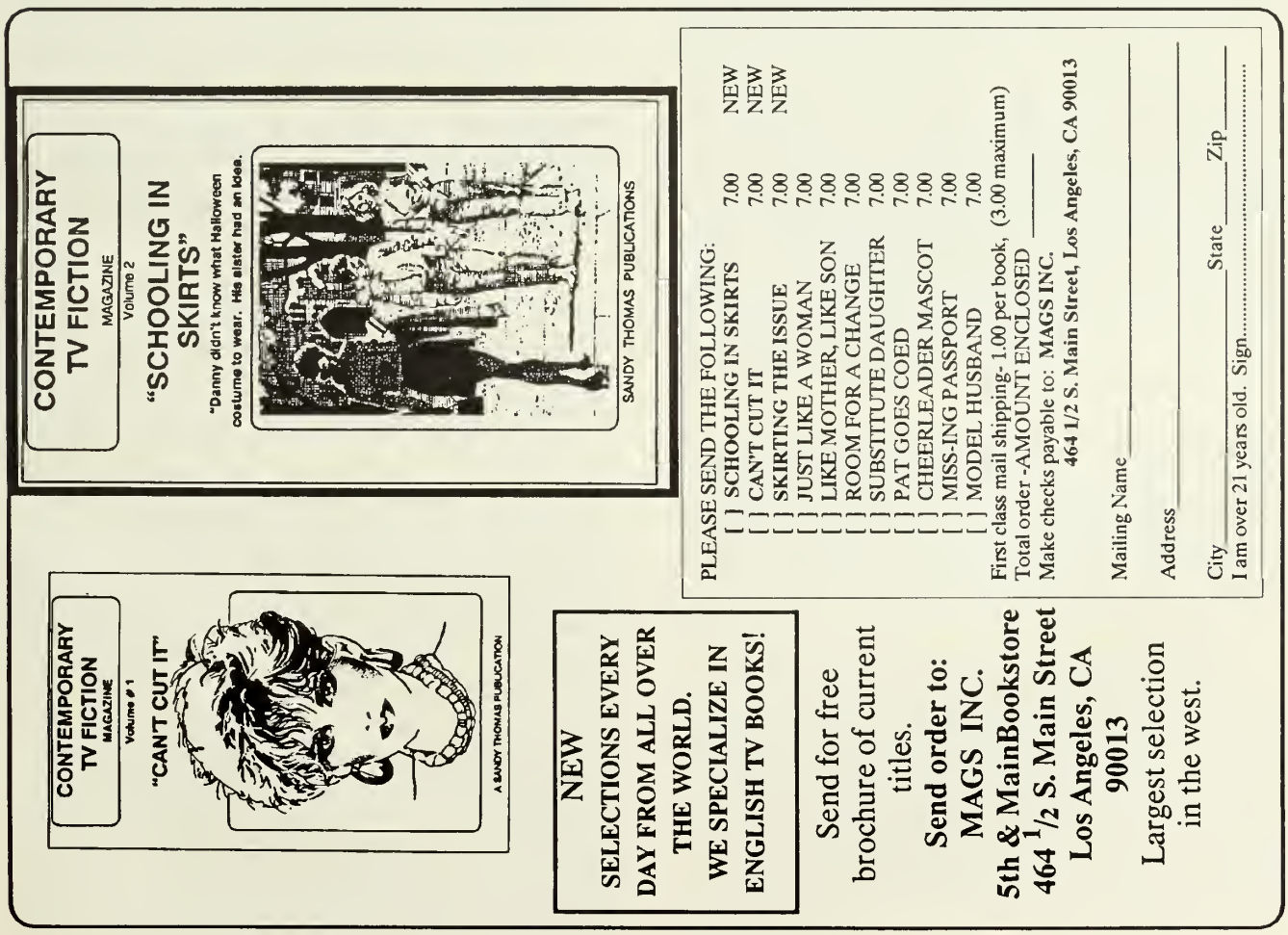
aged and shaped by an uplifting placebo effect. As the Native Americans point out so well, "all is related." There can be no ministers without congregations who accept the ministry. Cross-dressers cannot excel at family life while families remain terrified of them.

In other words, then, it is quite possible for our condition and the native tradition of **nadles** and **winktes** to both be accurate descriptions of the reality of cross-dressing. There is a cultural, interactive component to this reality which can be profoundly influential -- which can indeed account for the difference between our lives and theirs. We need not dismiss this surprising tradition as impossible fantasy.

Again, where does this leave us? If this is worth thinking about during the manicure, what sort of conclusions do we draw? Are we, for example, analogous to the sugar pill? Is our condition an utterly neutral thing which differing societies can shape at will into "pervert" or "paragon"? Or, are we like the girl in the television drama - do we have certain intrinsic gifts, by the nature of our condition, which can and ought to be developed, both for our own good and that of our culture?

Personally, I have many ideas about this. Perhaps later, in another article, these could be explored, but for now I would be interested to know the reactions of other cross-dressers to the four points made here, or to Williams' book itself. How does this knowledge make you feel? Do you find it empowering, depressing, or what? I ask this, because, whatever else, we do have one major advantage over the sighted girl in the valley of the blind. Thanks to powerful undertakings like TAPESTRY, we are no longer alone.

- END -



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FINDING A WONDERFUL SUPPORTIVE WIFE

by Glenda Rene Jones (NM-1952)

At the "Coming Together" held in San Francisco last April, I mentioned how much I appreciated Linda's help. Linda is my wife. Several people said, "You are so lucky to have such a supportive wife." Naturally this flattered me.

Yes, I guess I am lucky. A better way to put it, however, is "fortunate and deeply thankful." Linda is my confidant, my best friend and by a wide margin the best lover I have ever experienced. Still, I did not find Linda by luck or accident. I went through a period of dating which spanned years and involved meeting and getting to know dozens of women. I quipped to a person at church one day, "To find her took me three years and cost over $25,000. Easily the biggest bargain of my life."

These comments motivated me to ask several people what supportive wives have in common, what an unmarried TV might look for when he is dating. On the professional side of the fence I talked with Niela Miller and Roger Peo. Both of these people have dealt extensively with TV wives. On the paracultural side I talked with Betty Ann Lind who has met and talked to hundreds of wives and has written a number of articles on the subject. Out of these conversations and drawing from my own experience, a profile emerged. As with anything there are going to be exceptions to the rule.

1) Supportive wives are generally highly intelligent. More than just qualifying for a high I.Q. organization, these women have depth of knowledge in several fields some of which may overlap those of her husband. She is a woman unafraid to speak her opinion and particularly unafraid to disagree with men.

2) She calls her own shots and makes up her own mind. She decides what she wants and goes for it. While she certainly talks things over with her husband, his approval of her actions is not necessary for her to proceed with something. While she may be charming and able to put men at ease, she has no fear of them. She has a life of her own apart from her husband, including her own circle of friends beyond those they share.

3) She has a high self esteem and no doubt about her own femininity. She usually takes pride in her appearance.

4) She is generally tolerant of others and their lifestyles. Her circle of friends may well include some gays and lesbians. She strives to see the beauty in other people.

When I looked at this profile, it became totally clear why my first marriage never had a chance. My first wife Sarah went beyond being non-supportive; she hated my cross dressing. I remember hearing so many times, "those damn clothes." Hearing her say, "why does a handsome man like you want to wear women's clothes?"

It is interesting to compare her and Linda against the profile above. Sarah was intelligent and nearly a straight A student in college. She was careful, however, never to appear to know more about something than me unless it was something I had no interest in. She rarely disagreed with me.

Linda is also a straight A student. She graduated at the top of her Psychiatric Technician class. In this arena, because of my background in drug abuse work, I know more about drugs of abuse. Linda knows much more about pharmacology in general, which was not surprising, since she passed (dispensed) medications at the psychiatric hospital where she worked in California. When I have a general drug question, it is referred to her. Similarly I am more familiar with gender things. She asked me the other day what a "secondary transsexual" is. In the counseling field in general and with questions about psychology, she is the clear front runner. I may be the computer expert in the house, but Wordperfect questions always get referred to her.

Sarah was a dependent personality. After the manner of her father, she expected me to make all important decisions in the household. I remember when she was debating whether to go back to school or go to work. I wanted her to make the decision. In the end, after days of bugging me, I finally gave in and said, "I suppose it might be better if you went back to school."

Linda is her own woman. I remember when she finally cut the decision to become a Psych Tech, she called a family meeting. (That was when our daughter was still living with us.) She made it clear that her time for us would be more limited and activities would have to be better planned. She also made it clear that when she was at home, she had done most of the housework. Now it was going to be our responsibility for a while. In a way, her school years were some of our best because when she did budget time for me, she gave me her undivided attention.

Sarah has always been a plain Jane. Recently I attended my mother's funeral and didn't at first even recognize her because she blended so well into the background. She considered beauty parlors to be a waste of time and money and had a meager wardrobe. She even chewed me out one time for buying her a nice nightgown. "I have three perfectly good gowns as it stands, why did you waste money buying me another?"

Linda is glamorous. Not surprising that her mother even in her seventies is still a beauty. So is her sister and her daughter. Beauty runs in that family. We have three closets in our home. Two ordinary sized and one big one. One of the smaller ones is for Glenn, one for Glenda and the big one for Linda. Problem is that Glenda must share her's with Linda's overflow. I would hate to count the number of shoes she has. Linda always stands out in any crowd. You can bet your high heels that Glenda, no matter how good she might ever come off, is never a threat to Linda.

The point is clear. Sarah expected me to be the man and the head of the household. Seeing this male figure in a dress I am sure was quite unnerving. Sarah was threatened when she perceived Glenda looking better than her.

How did I find Linda? As I said it was an adventure that spanned many years. After Sarah and I split, I was absolutely determined that if I married again, it was going to be to a woman who supported my cross dressing.

At first I was quite naive. I dove into the single's community and started dating without much regard for whom I was looking. I remember right after one lady found out, her mother made a special trip especially to talk her out going with a "degenerate" like me.

Some amusing incidents as well. My youngest daughter was living with me at the time. One of my lady friends came over and decided to do the laundry. She piled the clean panties up on my daughter's bed. My daughter put about half of them on my bed and explained to the lady, "The way you tell mine from dad's is that he wears size 7 and I wear size 6." Some explanations were in order and after that she was "busy" whenever I called.

In time I became better at this thing. I started "churching around" and discovered that while many churches had active singles groups, the Unitarian Church and the Church of Religious Science had a lot of liberal and intelligent women like the ones I was looking for. "New Thought" churches, by the way, usually have an over abundance of women. I also found that liberal Catholic women were good candidates. Possibly one reason is that they have been exposed to the priest's habit all their life which is a slip and dress by any other name. Finding the right places in which to socialize is something everyone must discover for themselves.

One thing I usually did fairly soon after I got to know a lady was to get her into bed. Aside from being one of Glenn's favorite pastimes, it erased any questions about whether I was gay and also demonstrated clearly that while I was a man who cross dressed, I was a man nevertheless. I also realized just how lousy a lover I had been when I was married to Sarah even though I fathered three kids. My skills improved dramatically.

I established a filtering system which worked out well. The first few dates with anyone I looked for certain telltale signs. Was the woman a blabbermouth? If she was sharing intimate details of her relationship with her ex with me when it was none of my business, that was a red flag and an indication to terminate the relationship. Boy would the fact that I cross dressed be good gossip. Another good indicator was her attitude towards gays. Any indication of homophobia was a red flag as well.

One of the things I also did fairly soon, and sometimes on the same date where we first made love, was to have her over and fix her dinner. I am an excellent cook and showed right from the beginning that I wasn't looking for someone just to cook my meals and wash my clothes. Then once a relationship looked promising I would make her a nice piece of lingerie. (Lingerie sewing has been one of my long term hobbies.) This was demonstrable proof that I had definite feminine interests.

The second stage of the filtering process was to lay the pantyhose on the table so to speak. The process I used was to let her know that I often wore panties and always wore nightgowns to bed for the simple reason that I didn't own any male sleep wear. The final step in phase two was usually to have her over again for dinner letting Glenda do the honors.

The third stage, to firmly put the cross dressing thing to bed once and for all, was to educate the woman. My library was much more limited then than now. Today I would recommend that the woman read (1) Virginia Prince's The Transvestite and His Wife, and (2) Richard Doctor's Transvestites and Transsexuals. Linda and I went to the Fantasia Fair, but after we married. I recommend that before the nuptial knot is tied, she attend some affair of this type and meet and talk with other wives and with the knowledgeable professionals.

Although the main purpose of these activities was to secure female companionship and have fun in the process, it was also a mini research project. I came up with some interesting results. Most people, professionals and paraculturists alike, agree that cross dressers fall into three main groups: (1) Those of us who from time to time wear certain feminine clothing because it feels so neat, (2) those who dress all the way and sometimes go into public and enjoy passing, but revert firmly back into the male role afterwards, and finally (3) those who dress and frequently go into public, but wear some feminine clothing more or less all the time. Dr. Harry Benjamin referred to us on a scale of 1, 2 and 3 respectively.

Most of the women who went through the first filtering process had little trouble with my fetishistic interest in lingerie. One woman in fact who terminated our relationship when she first learned that I wore women's lingerie apologized a year or so later. She wished she hadn't been so hasty. Several, if they learned more about this thing, would have had little trouble with me attending things like Tri-Ess meetings or Fantasia Fair. As it stood, there were several potential relationships for me, but when I met Linda it was all over.

I will also mention that falling into a relationship because the woman readily accepts the cross dressing can be a mistake. I made that mistake and found that dressing is only one part of the whole. The fact that the woman will accept the dressing is no guarantee that a good relationship is truly there.

Linda and I have observed many customs in the years we have been married. Housework is a shared task. That includes changing the cats' litter box. In our case we each cook and clean up the kitchen afterwards about half the time. Glenda normally is expected to wash all the panty hose, but that is largely because Glenda wants to and Linda is just as happy that that is the case. Linda has also made it clear that while certain people in the paraculture are very dear to her, such as Betty Ann Lind, Tri-Ess is "your fraternity and not mine." Linda doesn't mind if I dress, but doesn't care to attend all the Tri-Ess meetings even though she attends quite a few. Linda is a wonderful wife and I love her very much.

About a week before "Coming Together", Sue, my seamstress, who is a good friend of Linda's, and Sue's significant other came over to the house. They, along with Linda, were served dinner by Glenda. After dinner I modeled each of the outfits I was planning to wear and received appropriate feedback from the three women. Sue, incidentally works professionally with cross dressers and a lot of the local female impersonators. It sure is neat to have a supportive wife with good connections.

I have slighted perhaps the role of Glenn in all of this. Linda and I are very active in our church, we like to hike, go to the theatre and do a lot of other things. As I indicated, once the dressing thing is a total non-problem, one gets on with life.

I will close on the following note. Look at it this way. Marrying an unsupportive woman is cheating three people. You are cheating yourself because you are going to live with this thing all your life and you might as well enjoy it. You are cheating the unsupportive woman. She will likely make someone else a wonderful wife. Finally you are cheating that beautiful wonderful woman waiting out there to meet you, fall in love with you, and is willing to support your cross dressing.

- END -

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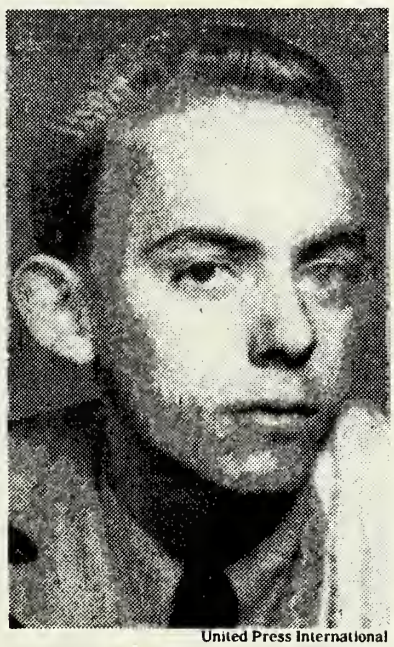
OBITUARY: CHRISTINE JORGENSEN

OBITUARY: Boston Globe / NY Times

SAN CLEMENTE, CA, May 3: - Christine Jorgensen, a former Army private who underwent surgery and hormone treatments in 1952 to change from a male to a female, died Wednesday in San Clemente Hospital after a long bout of lung and bladder cancer. She was 62.

"She was a wonderful, understanding woman who loved everyone," said actress Dorothy Lamour. "She gave out so much love and was a God-loving woman, one of the finest women I have ever met."

Miss Jorgensen was born in the Westchester section of the Bronx on May 20, 1926, and was named George Jorgensen, Jr. In her 1967 book, "Christine Jorgensen: A Personal Biography," Miss Jorgensen said she had a normal, happy childhood but on growing up became frustrated by feelings that she was a woman trapped in a man's body.



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Associated Press

George Jorgensen (1943), Christine Jorgensen (1953)

Her sexual conversion began with hormone injections in 1950, and was completed in 1952 with surgery at the Danish State Hospital in Copenhagen under the care of Dr. Christian Hamburger, a Danish hormone expert whose first name she took to form her own.

When she returned to the United States her transsexualism was sensationalized in the daily tabloids. Her notoriety took her on the lecture and nightclub circuit. She met royalty and celebrities and ended up with enough money to live a comfortable life.

She never married and lived for the last few years in this seaside community about 50 miles south of downtown Los Angeles. She described herself as a homebody who loved to entertain but stayed away from crowds. She said she had no regrets about the operation, and was proud to have been part of the sexual revolution.

She is survived by ....

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTINE
by Merissa Sherrill Lynn

In 1952, splashed across page one of the New York Daily News was the banner headline, "**EX-G.I. BECOMES BLONDE BEAUTY**". At the age of 10, I was not exactly an avid reader of the New York Daily News, so I missed it. However, I was an avid reader of Mad Magazine which did a take-off of that headline. That copy of Mad Magazine with Alfred E. Neuman in drag on its cover, became a treasure which I kept in a special hiding place for years. Today that same magazine would infuriate me for its insensitive and chauvinistic treatment of the transsexual phenomenon, but back then it was the gleam of salvation. It could be done! Somebody did it!

In 1953 I remember seeing a portrait of Christine. She wore a green satin dress. She stood straight and proud with her right hand resting gently on a small corinthian

pillar. That portrait was branded into my memory. Christine Jorgensen was a name and a person I would never forget. She was a celebrity, and I envied her.... but I didn't want to be her. I wanted to be Annie Oakley (Barbara Stanwick) or Calamity Jane (Doris Day). I wanted to be a girl and go out and play guns with the boys, then go to a party and be treated like a princess. Christine made my dream plausible.

As the years passed and my dreams became just dreams, Christine faded from my life. She was famous, and that was all. She had a book written about her and a movie made, but it was just one more book and one more movie about one more post-op transsexual. Besides being famous, who was she? What did she do?

While we were planning the 1988 "Coming Together" convention, Sr Mary Elizabeth, a close friend of Christine's, informed us that in spite of her failing health, Christine might be able to attend. She did indeed attend, and many of us who would never have known her, met what I consider to be one of the most extraordinary human beings I have ever met.

The first thing that struck me was how easy she was to be with. Here was a person who was known around the world, who had been introduced to royalty, and counted among her friends Dorothy Lamour, Walter Winchell, Harry Benjamin, and countless other stars and notables. Yet, she laughed easily, and had a warm smile and kind words for everyone. She genuinely seemed as glad to be with us as we were to be with her. We laughed, and shared memories, and ideas. I learned who she was, and what she did.

To my surprise, after I met her I found that I really liked her as a person. She was not only fun to be with, she had a rich and loving soul, and sincerely cared about others

Christine: Keynote speaker "Coming Together 1988"

Merissa & Christine - Awards Banquet March, 1988

and the future of our movement. Also to my surprise, we agreed with each other on many issues. For instance, we were both humanists and not feminists ("women's lib" is not the issue, "human lib" is). Also, we both agreed we must all fight discrimination wherever it rears its ugly head, whether it's in our community, the gay community, or anywhere. However, the one thing I admired most about her was her courage. She knew who and what she was, knew what she needed to do, and had the courage and the tenacity to accomplish her objectives. She became the woman she always was, and she did it with pride for all the world to see at a time when racism, sexism, and fear was the norm. In the movies of 1952 the heroine was the screamer waiting for some chest-beating man to come and save her. Christine never bought into that propaganda. She was an aggressive go-getter with the strength of her convictions -- world opinion be damned. God, I loved that woman! Calamity Jane may have been my role model, But Christine was my heroine.

Christine awoke when others could only dream. Christine led when no one else would lead. Christine was the pioneer who kicked open the doors for us all. Christine was a special human being who made an outstanding contribution, and we are the beneficiaries. **We must never forget Christine Jorgensen!**

(Edited from Gender Expressions Vol 1 No 3, published by Bisley Enterprises, c/o P.O. Box 2434, Woburn, MA 01888)

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTINE
by Jan Redbear

She must have seen many changes since that day in 1952 when the headlines blared "GI Becomes Blonde Bombshell", as have we all. Certainly, she, and we, saw the day pass when a specific ethnic ancestry was an SRS requirement, and we're doubtlessly moving - albeit too slowly - towards the time when Black, Hispanic, or Native American ancestry is never an impediment. No doubt about it, we and Christine alike saw sex change operations become a routine medical procedure (though sometimes still mistakenly called experimental). She saw a whole school of scientific thought grow up around her personality; and a generation of TSs with surprisingly similar personalities and life histories undergoing sex changes. She also lived to see that school of thought shattered, and the basis for which she and so many others were granted SRS fall into disfavor.

Christine will be missed by many of us and remembered by us all for many reasons. One is a stance she once took on civil rights: "If a law can be created in Dade County Florida against homosexuals, then where will it stop?... You're opening up the floodgate to discrimination against everybody." Now that everyone has been caught off guard by new legislation that legalizes housing discrimination against the transgendered, Christine's statement looks prophetic.

Mostly, though, she'll be remembered as a personality... Our celebrity. National TV and TS organizations accorded her superstar rank, with the status and prestige that went with it. She was constantly in demand at one lavish awards banquet after another, and always surrounded by fans and autograph seekers. But there was more... a biography, a movie, plays, and a touring night-club act. She lived in a busy, glamor-filled exciting world; where she was prompted to write that her lifestyle earned her "enough money, jewels and furs to live a comfortable life."

Christine, you'll be missed and remembered. You were the first. Regardless of any public image we have, you did make us public - and that was an important first step. In some ways, you made us possible. Now, you can pass the torch to a new generation of transsexuals just coming out - the **first** generation to truly come out. We'll light it brighter than before. We'll forgo acquiring the jewelry and furs, though - they'd just get in the way of the unfinished work to be done. There's a lot to do until we're no longer second class citizens, but we'll see it through to the end, never forgetting that your having lived opened some doors and smoothed the path a bit for whatever lies ahead.

Peace and rest to you, christine. You have earned it.

****

L-R: Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Sheila Kirk, Christine (with signature scroll of appreciation), Richard Docter, Ariadne Kane, Bette Ann Lind, (IFGE "Coming Together 1988")

OBITUARY: KAREN ULANE, 1941-1989

OBITUARY - NY Times

DE KALB, IL., May 23: - Karen Ulane, a Vietnam War combat pilot who was discharged by Easter Airlines after a sex-change operation in 1980, was killed Monday in the crash of a charter plane. She was 48.

Ms Ulane, known until her surgery as Kenneth Ulane, died in the crash of a twin-propeller DC-3 owned by an air taxi and cargo service in a field near here.

Ms Ulane had the sex change after 12 years with Eastern. The airline dismissed her, citing possible safety hazards in stressful situations. In 1983 Federal District Judge John F. Grady ordered reinstatement and $158,590 in back pay and other expenses, saying the 1964 Federal anti-discrimination law protects transsexuals. An appeals court disagreed and reversed the decision. Ms Ulane eventually received a settlement from Eastern that was "substantially more" than the amount ordered by Judge Grady, said her attorney, Dean Dickie.

Survivors include ....

TRIBUTE TO KAREN
by Eve B.

Karen F. Ulane began flying airplanes in 1959 and was a certified pilot since 1964. From 1964 to 1968 Ms Ulane served in the United States Army, flying numerous combat missions in Vietnam. She was an honor graduate of the Army flight school. Enemy fire hit her aircraft at least eight times. She received the Air Medal of Honor and eight clusters, the Vietnam Service Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal for exceptionally meritorious service.

She was honorably discharged in 1968 and began flying for Eastern Airlines that same year. During her twelve years flying for Eastern, Karen rose from the rank of Second Officer to First Officer, served as flight instructor, and was elected and then reelected by her fellow pilots to represent them in the pilot's union. Karen's record was unblemished.

In September 1979 Karen took medical leave to have sex reassignment surgery. On April 24, 1981, Eastern Airlines fired her.

I had met Karen early in 1979 when we jointly participated in therapy sessions with Dr. Berger in anticipation of sex reassignment. A close friendship developed. Karen recuperated from the surgery in our home. We saw one-another often, played golf, and met for lunch or dinner. I took an active part in developing her style of dressing and, quite generally, loaned a responsive ear when she wrestled with the many roadblocks that family and society put in her way. I recall her frequent complaints about being lonely and our long discussions on "how to flirt".

Karen's ultimate acceptance came in the small obituary column in the Chicago Tribune, when her family released the following: "Karen F. Ulane, beloved daughter of Theresa and the late Jerome, dear parent of Michael, loving sister of Jerry, etc."

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It was almost ten years ago that she had received sex reassignment surgery and embarked on a mission of acceptance from family and Eastern. Even years later her mother would refer to Karen as Ken and act as though Karen never came into being. She endured a prolonged court battle, costing close to a million dollars, and the national publicity that accompanied it in a determined and proud effort to be reinstated as a pilot. With a mind at peace Karen felt that never was she more qualified to assume the responsibility of piloting a 727 full of passengers.

Trial Judge Grady originally found that Eastern had discriminated against Karen and ruled for reinstatement.

In August of 1984, the United States Court of Appeals, following appeal by Eastern, reversed the earlier ruling arguing that Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 did not apply to transsexuals.

With the door to her commercial flying career closed, Karen skillfully operated a flowershop and an operation of servicing and marketing electronic equipment for aircraft. After years of fighting prejudice trying to land another commercial pilot position, Karen hired on with a fledgling charter firm who placed their hopes upon a 45 year old DC-3. For a full year Karen worked on this craft to make it airworthy and pass the required FAA inspection. About two months before the tragic accident, Karen finally found that long awaited opportunity; she became a partner in a newly formed charter firm, its chief pilot and entered the happiest period of her life. After experiencing the many disappointments and emotional turmoil, Karen was of high spirit and full of hope for the future.

She was highly respected by her colleagues at the Aurora airport. She proudly served on the Board of the Airport Authority and always was eager to help others. In fact this wonderful attitude lead to her death.

That fateful Monday she was asked by two experienced pilots to accompany them on a check flight (of the same DC-3 that Karen had known all too well) strictly as a favor prior to its sale the following day.

A combined experience of 30,000+ miles could not overcome the mechanical problem that caused its crash.

Just when the days of discrimination and prejudice appeared to be over, Karen's life was extinguished. She leaves behind a legend of fighting society's injustice for the right to be Karen.

I'll miss her.

- END -

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LIFE IN TWO CLOSETS

By: Donna Mobile (NM-1734)

For most of my life I have been hiding in one closet or another, hiding from people so they wouldn't hurt me, hiding for no good reason from the very people who might have helped me most. I've been fortunate enough in my life to have shared two "families", one a brotherhood, the other a sisterhood. Two families ... two closets.

The first family was the brotherhood of arms, of men who have confronted death and the ultimate truth of their own mortality, and survived that encounter with the edge of the abyss. We were proud of ourselves and our service, even if no one else was. Everyone else seemed embarrassed, or even ashamed of us. The real heroes, we were told, were the ones who fled to Canada or college. We were our country's bastard children, now showing up at the door to claim what we were told was our birthright. Nobody cared. Nobody wanted to hear about our troubles or our successes. Our friends and relatives already knew about the drugs and the booze, the nightmares and the flashbacks and what all those chemicals did to us. They just knew that we were all crazy, that the war had unbalanced us and that we were no longer fit for civilized society. Some of us became militant and demanded our rights and our recognition, but most of us slipped quietly into the closet. We packed up our medals and decorations and our memories, bottled them up and sealed the bottles in our seabags and duffel bags. Nobody cared. We were all crazy. Everyone knew that because that's what they told each other.

So, those bonds of brotherhood forged in the fires of war were put aside, hidden away in tens of thousands of closets. We came home and went back to work. We got jobs, lost jobs, went to college, graduated, flunked out, got married, got divorced, started businesses, failed at business... just like everyone else. However, back there in that closet was a seabag full of memories. The horrors that we were part of could have been talked out with our families, our friends, but nobody wanted to hear. Nobody cared. The old memories faded. The wounds scarred over... but never really healed.

My own seabag has only one memory that won't go away. I have had no nightmares, not a single flashback, no drug stronger than aspirin -- just one memory that won't go away. It's a faded image of a young man older than his years, sitting on the ground hugging the shattered remnants of a brother Marine, now dead on some worthless, nameless patch of ground. He sobs at the loss of a friend and screams in rage and revenge on those responsible. The memory fades a little more each year but never goes away. I can still recognize the face because it is mine, but the rest blurs.

No one cared to hear, so the memory got folded up with the clippings, locked away in an old seabag, and stashed back there in the closet, right next to a faded old suitcase that contained other, deeper secrets.

I was never really sure what I was, although I was dead certain what I wasn't. I knew I wasn't gay. I was pretty sure I wasn't really a girl (heck, a quick check of the plumbing from time to time confirmed that). I also knew that I never really felt comfortable anywhere. I always felt left out, left behind, left field. I was confused, to understate the problem. It wasn't that I didn't like girls; I just liked their clothes better.

I never experienced the crushing guilt or pain that so many of my sisters have. I had no doubts about myself, and I figured that this desire to wear those clothes would go away as soon as I got around to willing it so. Somehow I just never got around to willing it so. There was always that extra piece of baggage I carried around. There were only a few items there, some panties, nylons, a lacy little bra, things that could be explained away as trophies of my many conquests in case they were discov-

ered. Of course, there weren't many conquests. The idea of being shipped off to a bullet-swept rice paddy somewhere scared me less than the idea of actually asking a girl out on a date. My secret bag followed me around. I carried my closet with me.

My first wife never knew. I not only hid it from her, I hid it from myself. I just willed it away, or so I thought. It was always there, lurking, waiting. On those rare occasions when I was away and could indulge my little fancies, I just kept telling myself I wasn't really one of "those people", whatever or whoever they were. That other person who was hiding way down deep never really made herself known, at least not that I could recognize. The closet stayed dark and closed.

After my wife left me and my son, for reasons of her own, the other "person" inside that closet almost seemed to take her place. I always knew she was there, and I enjoyed her company when she poked her head out, but now I really tried to get to know her. I didn't have much luck. There wasn't anyone around to explain her to me, no one I could talk to about her, but she sure felt like part of me. For the first time I really started to feel guilt about letting her share me, or me her. Whatever or whoever she was, she was getting in the way of me getting on with my life, so out she went. The first and only real purge of my life was that final act of will that I always knew I'd be able to make when the time came.

It didn't work. She was back before I knew it, and with her she brought along a friend, the woman I probably should have married the first time around. It didn't take much at all to tell her about these other clothes, about this other "person" that sometimes came around. As far as she was concerned, she was getting two for the price of one. She didn't really understand, any more than I did, but she accepted and enjoyed and shared whatever she could. There was one rule, one line she drew in the ground, right there around the bed: no nighties in bed except for her own!

There was always something there that I couldn't seem to share with her, something I didn't really understand or explain, so it stayed in the closet. It wasn't just that getting dressed up in something sexy made me feel sexier, more at ease, or more playful. It was something deeper, like that other person was really making an effort to get out. My wife may have sensed that there was a lot more to this than I was letting on, because one day she made a point of staying home from work to watch one of those talk shows. The TV Guide (no pun intended) said the guests would be men who dressed up like women. She copied down the address they showed at the end of the program and suggested that maybe I ought to write and find out more. It took over a year to write. I didn't see the need. After all, I wasn't really like that, wasn't one of "them". This was just something I did for fun. I knew that wasn't true, but that's what I kept telling myself.

When I finally wrote to the address she had copied down, I got an envelope full of material from some outfit called "Tri-Ess", and before I finished reading even half the material, I knew darned well that I was not only just like them, but had probably been that way all my life. I just kept ignoring the feminine voice that whispered from within from time to time until the whisper became a shout that even my wife could hear.

At that point there was supposed to be a happy ending. I was supposed to send my money for membership off to that address, and we would start meeting other couples just like us, and we would work out our problems, and so on. Trouble was, sometimes life just dumps one on you.

The diagnosis of cancer came in June. She kept her chin up, mustered all her will, and dug in, ready to fight the thing. The fight lasted six months. She died the week before Christmas.

For almost a year, I slammed the closet door shut and locked it all away. I finally sold all those old uniforms, except for the Dress Blues. I threw that other suitcase into

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the dumpster, along with every damned thing in it. I didn't want anything more to do with people. This whole crummy world would probably be a lot better off without them.

I suddenly started writing to some of those people in the membership directory. Don't ask me why. Maybe after a year I just needed to see if anyone out there wanted to talk to me. Or, maybe I just needed to talk to someone. In any case, my life hasn't been the same since.

Suddenly that yawning hole in me started healing. That little soft voice inside started finding her own personality, and wonder of wonders, it fit my own just fine. My wife had always thought Donna was a nice enough name for the girl that came to visit from time to time, and that's who she became. That's who WE became.

I didn't just come out of the closet. I kicked the door right off the hinges so there wouldn't be any going back. The clothes that were left came out of hiding and went up proudly on the hangers where they belong. Both closets are now empty, and the ghosts are gone. I'm a whole ME again. That case full of medals and decorations seems to belong to someone else, someone I don't recognize anymore except for one silly memory that Donna saved when the closet was cleaned out.

Back in that other life, so many years ago, HE woke up in a field hospital trussed up like a Thanksgiving turkey, with tubes sticking out everywhere and miles of surgical tape holding the whole thing together. When HE looked down to assess the damage and saw all the tape and sutures holding the arms and chest together, HE was thinking about how to explain his dumbness to his family. SHE was thinking, "Oh, hell, I guess that puts an end to sleeveless dresses for a while." I still can't wear sleeveless, but the scars have all healed nicely, thank you... ALL of them!

Anyone who wants a nice loony Viet Nam vet to feel sorry for are going to have to look elsewhere. Donna purged the ghosts herself because she couldn't stand having them in the closet with her anymore, and then she kicked the doors off. Sensible girl, but a long-winded writer.

Semper Fi, sister.

- END -

PSYCHOLOGY

(Roger Peo is a Board certified sexologist and president of 'Androgyny Unlimited'. If you have subjects you would like Roger to write about, you may write to him at: P.O. Box 4887, Poughkeepsie, NY 126021 914-462-7455. All communications are confidential.)

ROGER'S NOTEBOOK (#27)
Uniforms and Crossdressing

By: Roger E. Peo, Ph.D.

In the December 1987 issue of Psychology Today there was an article, "Standard Issue", that dealt with uniforms. The author, Michael Solomon, wrote about uniforms used in businesses such as car rental, airline cabin attendants, etc. In this article Mr. Solomon notes that the wearing of a uniform communicates something about the company with which the person is associated. It creates an image and makes the particular service more identifiable. Further, uniforms establish the desired impression the company wants to create. Later, the author wrote that wearing a uniform can affect the employees as well. By helping them identify with the company, their service to the customer is more "uniform". Also, because they are identifiable by their uniform, they are less likely to engage in undesirable behaviors.

As I read this article, I could not help but connect his observations with the male of female "uniforms" we all wear every day. In much the same way as the formalized company uniform predicts and controls the behavior of the employee, so does the wearing of a skirt or pants influence and moderate what the wearer does.

In just about every seminar that I conduct, I ask the participants to think about the various interactions they have had with people during the past 24 hours. Then I ask them to think about the first thing they noticed about the other person. Invariably, it was the person's sex. They could not see the other person's genitalia, what they used was clothing and the person's face. The message they read in this "uniform" determined how they acted toward that other person, in subtle and unconscious ways.

I think you see where I am headed. When you cross-dress both you and the persons around you react to the uniform you are wearing. For you, there are significantly different feelings associated with the clothes. Makeup and a wig add further sensations. High heeled shoes add another dimension. All of these things influence how you behave. In a Tri-Ess meeting you may "let down your guard" and not remember you are now a woman. If you go out in public cross-dressed, such a lapse in behavior would be quickly noticed. People are subconsciously programmed to read body language in addition to clothing. Such incongruities are often the reason why a cross-dresser is 'read'.

As a male you have many years of programming on how to act as a male. It has become subconscious and automatic behavior. While putting on women's clothes generates different feelings it does not automatically modify your body language. Your movements that carry male messages were long ago relegated to automatic behaviors. To change them, you first have to become aware of them and then you have to learn the feminine ones to replace them.

Similarly, your speech patterns carry male messages. It is not so much the deepness of your voice (we all know women who have deep voices) as it is how quickly you speak, your choice of words or expressions and the inflections you use.

All of these are uniforms just as much as the clothes that you put on your body. In total they both describe to the world who you are and in turn reinforce that state through the feedback you get from others. So, being male or female, man or woman, is much more than some bits of cloth placed judiciously on your body. It is a whole package that is maintained both internally and by the world we live in.

ROGER'S NOTEBOOK (#30)
Teenage Crossdressers

By: Roger E. Peo, Ph.D.

What is the most difficult time in a cross-dresser's life? While no period is easy, I have come to the conclusion that the teenage years are by far the hardest. So many things are happening and the teenage crossdresser has so little freedom. In addition, he is probably afraid to confide in his parents. Where is he to turn to get help? Unless he is very unusual he does not realize that he is not alone. The guilt, fear, anxiety are mixed with new sexual urges. He may feel very awkward in social situations. His need to crossdress is something he can not confide to anyone for fear of rejection and ridicule.

In my work on the CompuServe computer network I have recently run into the extremes that a teenage crossdresser may experience. One has a happy outcome and the other has the potential for tragedy.

The happy story is of the young man who found Genderline on CompuServe. In his "conversations" with others he found that he was not alone in his feelings. While he could not confide in his parents, he was able to work out his feelings with others on the network. One of his "conversations" will show how far he has come:

> "However, when I consider telling my parents about my being a TV, I consider the following two items. First and foremost, what possible good could I hope to achieve in telling them aside from knowing that I have hid nothing from them? Secondly, though I love them dearly and they are fairly bright people, could they understand the correct implications of my being a TV? I think that ... they would misinterpret what being a TV is. They would unwittingly question my sexuality and mental balance. They would still love me and try to cope but even if they could, and did, what will I have achieved that counterbalances the harm done to our relationship, as well as my relationship with others who would subsequently find out? I feel that when looked at logically, the answer is a simple one: Tell them nothing of that which you do in private and is detrimental to no one." Very astute observations for a teenager. The other case has a less optimistic outcome. His parents have learned their 14 year old son crossdresses. They are upset. They have not yet confronted him with this information but they want him to stop doing it. Given their emotional reaction, it does not seem likely that he will get the support he needs. The one bright spot is that they put their concerns out and asked for advice and help.

Which of these teenagers were you? Probably some of both. If you were typical you hid all traces of your crossdressing from everyone. You were scared to death that someone would somehow detect this "aberration"

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which would result in the ruination of your life. If CompuServe were available, would you have explored? Would you have taken the risk to share your feelings with others?

In some ways we are still all teenagers, for around us there are people who are more powerful and who are willing to exploit any weakness they find in us. The other side of the coin is that there are people out there who are willing to extend a hand in friendship. How do you tell one from the other? Sometimes you have to take a risk.....

ROGER'S NOTEBOOK (#31)
Semi-permanent Body Changes

By: Roger E. Peo, Ph.D.

I suspect that the idea of having breasts is high on the list of many cross-dressers. More is written in cross-dressers publications on how to simulate real breasts than nearly any other subject except perhaps make-up and how to pass in public. Cross-dressers go to great lengths and great expense to simulate realistic looking breasts. It is not hard to figure out why this is so -- breasts are the most prominent (pun intended) aspect of femininity.

I recently had some correspondence with a cross-dresser who figured out a basically non-hormonal way to mold his breast tissue into a more feminine appearance. What he did took a lot of time (years) and a great deal of dedication to the process. We discussed the overall problems associated with having (and maintaining) feminine appearing breasts.

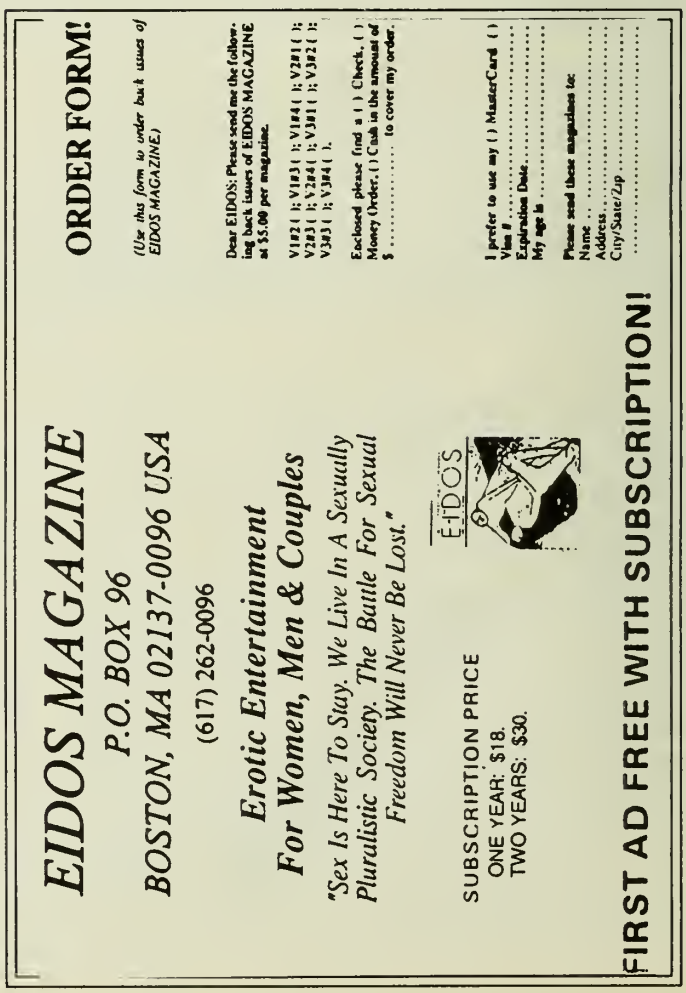
Having breasts while dressed as a woman obviously poses little problem and certainly enhances the overall effect. However, what happens the rest of the time? Here some caution has to be exercised. Locker rooms and tight T-shirts are generally out. Depending on your vocation, clothes that hide your development need to be worn. Further, for his method, it was necessary to wear a special kind of bra all the time.

Having permanent breasts will most likely effect your wife or significant other -- usually not in a positive way. Thus only cross-dressers with very special circumstances can even avail themselves of this fantasy.

This leads me to a more general observation about changing your bodily appearance in relatively permanent ways, whether it be through hormones, electrolysis, surgery or whatever. Before undertaking these changes, some of which are irreversible, it is absolutely imperative that you spend a lot of time examining the consequences of such a change. Oftentimes, I talk to cross-dressers who have made such a change without such consideration and then regretted it. Perhaps the most common change is the removal of body hair by shaving or depilation, usually when a deep desire to be more feminine is at its peak. Wives are often very unhappy if their husband does this. It is, if nothing else, a constant reminder of his need to cross-dress.

More serious is the taking of hormones and at the top of the list is rushing into genital reassignment surgery. Any of these procedures is right given the appropriate circumstances but determining when is a long process. For example, if you want to remove some or all of your body hair, the question has to be asked, "What kinds of problems can this cause when I am not cross-dressed?" You have to put yourself in all the situations where this might be discovered and figure out the reactions. If other people are involved, some negotiation, before the act, may be the only thing that averts a serious problem. The more permanent the change, the more imperative it is for you to closely analyze the consequences well in advance.

I understand the desire on the part of cross-dressers to be as feminine in appearance as possible. However, being feminine is usually only a small fraction of your total life. Consequences of irreversible (or slowly irreversible) modifications to your body have to be well thought out to make your total life comfortable.



ROGER'S NOTEBOOK (#33)
Attitudes Toward Therapists

By: Roger E. Peo, Ph.D.

I have started this column several times. Each time I decided it would appear too self-serving, so I put it aside. Recently several things have happened to trigger these thoughts so now these words make it to print. Lest you think I am alone in the following opinions, I should mention that I have recently read a similar op-ed piece in one of the many newsletters I receive from organizations in your community and it was written by a transgendered person.....

-=-=-=-=-

It is sad that common courtesy and consideration for other people seems to be disappearing from our society. I wonder if the people in the gender community realize how they sometimes appear to other people.

I receive 3-5 inquiries per week asking for referrals or help of some kind. The tone of many letters leaves me feeling that the writer thinks I owe them a response. In such letters there are no phrases that say something like, "Thank you for taking time to help me." It is a rare letter that includes a self-addressed, stamped envelope for the reply. In several years of correspondence, I could count on the 'thumbs of one hand' the number of letters I have received thanking me for my time and effort -- for which there is almost always no charge.

While I give away a great deal of advice, I don't think it is too much to ask for reasonable compensation. When I have asked a nominal fee for such support or referrals, the response often is, "I can't afford to pay." I wonder if they would make the same statement to their dentist? Is my service less valuable? Some have said they would pay but never do.

My education cost a great deal of time, effort and money. In addition, I have on-going expenses. My time is perhaps the most valuable of all. I spend an average of an hour on every response.

I am not alone in such feelings. Other therapists and counselors tell me similar tales. Those few professionals who support the transgendered community appear to have a sense of concern and commitment. They are often frustrated by the attitudes of those who come to them for help. While they and I are keenly aware of the pain of gender conflicts, anger and lack of common courtesy do not create pleasant interactions.

Besides the helping professionals, there are many organizations who work hard to provide outreach to your community. From what I hear, they have experienced similar situations.

Several things have happened recently that do not predict a good future for support. As some of you know, Joyce Dewhurst recently died. She was an activist who provided a great deal of support for the community. I suspect that the Better Living Institute may cease to exist because it was basically a one-person activity with many of the frustrations I outlined above. I could list other situations but this one makes my point.

Therapists and others who work on your behalf are people too. They need to know their efforts are appreciated. Common courtesy toward the people who do care will go a long way to assure that they will be there for you and those who need them. The Golden Rule applies even to therapists.

- END -

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An Interview with Dr. Stanley H. Biber

By: Wendi Pierce

Recently, I had the pleasure of meeting and spending some time with Dr. Stanley Biber, the world renowned gender surgeon. He has performed over 2000 gender reassignment surgeries over the last 20 years and is one of the most experienced surgeons in this field. During our time together, he agreed to answer some questions that might be of interest to our community. What follows is a transcription of the interview which was conducted on May 10th, 1989, at Mt. San Rafael Hospital in Trinidad, Colorado.

Wendi: Dr. Biber, How much has your technique changed since you started doing reassignment surgery?

Dr. Biber: We have changed it in about five different stages. Our early instituted surgery was horrible. When we first started it was terrible, it looked terrible, everything was heavy, it looked heavy, but everyone liked it because it worked. It looked horrible so we've gone through these various stages. Then we got the thing going the way it is today.

Wendi: How long have you been doing reassignment surgery using your current technique?

Dr. Biber: This technique has been pretty standard for the last four or five years.

Wendi: How many techniques are being used right now?

Dr. Biber: Oh, maybe about, if you count variations, about three or four. See, you've got some doctors who don't do very many... only one or two a year. I don't know what kind of technique they're using. I usually see those afterwards. There's really only about three places that are doing enough to keep up the experience.

Wendi: What is your opinion of the satisfaction achieved by this surgery, both psychological and physical?

Dr. Biber: Physical satisfaction is pretty good. After the labioplasty and stuff like that you'll go around proud of yourself. If we've picked out a true transsexual and didn't make a mistake, then you have tremendous psychological satisfaction. About 95% have orgasm and most of the patients we've followed up on are very satisfied. If we pick them right, we have very little reciprocity. Whew, as a matter of fact, I can count on one hand, since 1979, the number who have wanted to change back, and most of those haven't changed back. Just one I changed back once, but we didn't do him initially. He had all kinds of colitis and stuff like that. And psychosomatically, we didn't feel he was transsexual.

Wendi: When do you feel it's not justifiable to do this surgery?

Dr. Biber: Not justified..., well if a patient's dying from AIDS or something, we won't do the surgery. If the patient's not a true transsexual, of course we won't do the surgery, or if he's a schizophrenic. Occasionally we'll do a patient who's gender problem is the cause of the schizophrenia, but boy, I'd have to have tremendous collaboration with the psychiatrists to really make sure what's going on. But, we've done a few, and we've had some good results with those. Other than that we've got to be real careful a homosexual doesn't come down and slip through. Either you fit the pattern or you don't get the surgery. That's the way it's got to be.

Wendi: Do you actively track your patients after surgery and do you have any statistics?

Dr. Biber: We try, and that's why we have questionnaires our patients send me back six months later. We try to put things together at least on a two year basis when we have our meetings and stuff. But, I'll be the first one to say we lose a lot. The best cases we lose because they get assimilated into society and won't have me put the finger on them. We lose some of those, I know that. It's a little better now with the follow up than it used to be, so we're a little more pleased. But gee, for a while there, we were only getting 37% follow up because many of the girls wouldn't send the papers back. They wouldn't give the right addresses; they wanted to get lost, you know. They didn't want anybody to know about it, but things are changing. They're accepting the situation much better.

Wendi: Do you feel the surgery is justifiable for a patient who plans a gay lifestyle?

Dr. Biber: Yeah! We didn't before, but several years ago we started doing them. We didn't really start..., we got taken in. Then we started looking at their lesbian lifestyle and started thinking about it. They were living very good lives and were very productive and were doing fine. So, little by little we came to believe, so what the hell, if there's homosexuality in the normal population, why shouldn't there be homosexuality in the transsexual population. So little by little we advanced and I don't hold it against them. If they come in and are living a lesbian lifestyle, we're still going to do them. We've had a few that came in and thought they were lesbians, and after surgery,

they changed and are not lesbians any more, they went straight. So there's variations, just like the natural population.

Wendi: Will you be continuing your work in reassignment surgery for the foreseeable future?

Dr. Biber: We're going to try, it all depends. We're having a hell of a time with malpractice insurance with respect to transsexual surgery. Right now I'm actually going without insurance in order to do the transsexual work. This problem is scarring everybody else in the field. They just won't do it without insurance. That's the biggest bugaboo right now. In the future we don't know what's going to happen, because Colorado just passed a law that says in order to get a license to practice, you must get malpractice insurance or self-insure yourself. So it's very crazy right now until they sort through all that stuff. They run the world right now.

Wendi: How many Female to Male reassignments have you done?

Dr. Biber: Right now we've been holding back most of those. We've been telling them that it's experimental, and if you can afford to wait, maybe we'll develop a better technique and we'll have it down. The ones that can't afford to wait, we tell them that it's experimental. We are doing about 15 or so a year versus about 2 or 3 a week of the male to females.

Wendi: How successful have the Female to males been?

Dr. Biber: Not too. It's still experimental. Oh, we can make a penis, it'll look like a penis, but it's not very functional. No matter what technique you use there still got to be something better.

Wendi: Would you support a professional review system for surgeons that do reassignment surgery?

Dr. Biber: Well, that's kind of hard. You know that the transsexual community takes care of itself. The grapevine is so strong. They pretty well know which surgeons they should go to and which ones they shouldn't, and that's the best we can do at this time. Otherwise we'd be interfering with the doctor-patient relationship and that's a legal problem.

Wendi: What is your opinion of the attitude of insurance companies toward reassignment surgery?

Dr. Biber: We've had all kinds of problems with insurance companies both from the malpractice (coverage) side and from the patient's side. Even so, there are some insurers that will cover the operation at the present time. Most won't, and we're not making a hell of a lot of a dent right now. As far as government insurance, Medicare and Medicaid, they won't accept the diagnosis. Certain states have bought it, but general insurers are giving us a really hard time and are giving our patients a hard time too.

Wendi: Do you see that changing in the future?

Dr. Biber: I don't know. We may be hitting our heads against a stone wall. It's a matter of education. We need to educate the insurance companies like we've educated the public, like we educated the psychiatrists. It's a syndrome now, and it's accepted. It took how many years, twenty some years? Oh, since '66 we've been trying and, I don't know how long it's going to take.

Wendi: Is has been said that this type of surgery on the increase, that 6 to 8 thousand surgeries have been done and that there are about 80 thousand candidates. Do you agree this?

Dr. Biber: I think we have a fairly good handle on the male to female. First we thought there were ten or twenty thousand in the United States and now we've got it up to about 80 thousand. That's been pretty stable for the last few years. But, what's coming out is the female to males, which we thought may be one in ten ratio to the male to female. It's not. The communications that we're getting are that they are coming more and more and more. I bet that its going to end up just the same.

Wendi: So, you think it's going to be one to one?

Dr. Biber: Maybe. I bet you eventually, especially when we get the procedure perfected.

Wendi: How much of an awareness do you have of the "gender community", it's organizations, and would you be willing to address any of these organizations as a speaker?

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Dr. Biber: I have in the past, and I have been on the boards of some of the organizations. For me it's hard to get away. I get publications from the various organizations and I read the newsletters I get.

Wendi: This last question is meant to be answered from a philosophical viewpoint. Why do you continue to do this surgery?

Dr. Biber: I have a great deal of empathy for the transsexual patients. I've seen so many, I know them so well respectively and I know what they're going through, I know how horrible it is. I mean, you kind of project yourself into the situation how horrible it is for them to live their life without being complete. Actually, it's just like the frosting on the cake having surgery. But if I can do that for them and complete it for them and make them happy people that's what I want. It's a matter of empathy. They're really great people when you come down to it, think what they've gone through. Oh, we've had patients who've given us a hell of a lot of trouble, but most of the patients are so nice. You know, they're real nice people. Occasionally we get a girl who makes us want to pull our hair out and throw her out of the hospital, you know, that happens, but hell we see that in the normal population as well. So, we have our variations. These people have gone through a lot of psychological stress, and if we can help them and make them good citizens, I like that.

Wendi: Thank You Dr. Biber. Is there any thing that you wish to add before we close?

Dr. Biber: Oh, I'll be seeing you again and then you can ask some more questions, now take good care of yourself, keep in touch and let me know how it goes.

This concluded our interview. In retrospect, I would say that Dr. Biber is a very dedicated professional who has shown through the years that he wants to help the transsexual community. He is a down home, family oriented person, married recently, and has two young children (ages 3 and 5, I was told by hospital staff). He is also a local rancher. Personality-wise, he is a caring person (kind of a father image) who is looked up to by the staff at Mt. San Rafael hospital, and from what I could tell, the population of Trinidad in general. His day begins at six or seven in the morning, 4 to 5 days a week, performing surgery at Mt. San Rafael hospital ranging from total hip replacements to sex reassignment. Then he's off to an office filled with patients who have come from all over southern Colorado to seek his medical expertise. In conversations I had with his secretary, Marie, I was told that since a riding accident a few years back, he has been winding down his general practice, but desires to continue to do work in the area of sex reassignment for the foreseeable future. I would say he is in his mid to late sixties, but his health seems good and one would assume that he will continue his work in this area for the next 3 to 5 years, conditions permitting.

A word should also be said about the other members of Dr. Biber's team of professionals. Most of this team, which include both the hospital staff and his anesthetist, Dorothy, have been together for many years, and are very knowledgeable, knowing the procedures extremely well. Also, the hospital in general is very supportive and willing to help make the "Trinidad Experience" the true "Icing on the Cake", as Dr. Biber puts it.

I now see why this tiny little town of less than 10,000 people, 90 miles from the nearest airport (Pueblo), has drawn thousands of individuals over the past 20 years, seeking to complete a process which has consumed so much of their time, finances and lives in general. Dr. Biber, his work, and staff are truly worth "GOING FOR IT" in Trinidad. Dr. Biber can be reached at the following address:

Stanley H. Biber Md.
406 First National Bank Bldg.
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- END -

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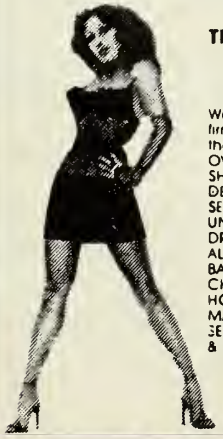

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BULLETINS, NOTICES, NEWS

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Kandi Kane, Box 185, Perkinsfield, ON LOL 2J0 CANADA

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Fantasia Fair, Lincolnia Sta., P.O. Box 11254, Alexandria, VA 22312

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TC-WSG, C/O P.O. Box 2283, Woburn, MA 01888 (508) 358-2305

OCTOBER 20-22, 1989: 1st annual INTER-GROUP HARMONY WEEKEND, Scarborough, England

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Martine Rose, P.O. Box 339, Sheffield S1 3SX England

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Lambda Foundation, 500 Pennsylvania Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15224

MARCH 20-25, 1990: 4th annual 'COMING TOGETHER - WORKING TOGETHER' CONVENTION - BOSTON.

To be held at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Natick, just minutes from downtown Boston..

'Coming Together' is sponsored by the International Foundation for Gender Education on behalf of the TV/TS Community as a whole, and those persons serving or affected by that Community. The Convention's objectives are to promote self-validation and self-respect, develop a sense of togetherness and provide an in-depth educational opportunity. (Tend to the business of the Community, and have fun doing it.)

'Coming Together', c/o I.F.G.E., P.O. Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778 (617) 894-8340 (2pm - 10pm Mon - Sat)

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TransPitt, P.O. Box 3214, Pittsburgh, PA 15230

MARCH, 1991: 5th annual 'COMING TOGETHER - WORKING TOGETHER' CONVENTION - DENVER

Details pending

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Issues 47, 48, & 49 (SOLD OUT)
Issues 40 to 46 $8.00 per copy
Issue 39 $ 6.00 per copy
(# 33 - 38 SOLD OUT) (Issues 1-32 were in newsletter form and are not available)

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ARIADNE KANE PRESENTED WITH OUR COMMUNITY'S TOP AWARD

SAN FRANCISCO, 4/89: During the Saturday evening Awards Banquet at the 1989 'Coming Together Convention', Ariadne Kane, Founder and Director of the Outreach Institute, became the third recipient of the prestigious 'Dr. Virginia Prince Award'.

Named in honor of it's first recipient, the 'Dr. Prince Award' is presented annually by the International Foundation for Gender Education to an outstanding individual to recognize and honor the ONE person from the gender community who has given the greatest amount of themselves in service to others.

Ms Kane received the award on the basis of her work on behalf of the gender community since 1973. In 1975 she founded the Human Outreach and Achievement Institute, an organization dedicated to public education and to working with the health professionals who serve our community. She also founded Fantasia Fair, a 9-day "personal growth experience" which for the last 14 years has been one of the finest and most comprehensive events of its kind in the world. She also founded the Outreach Professional Evaluation and Referral Network (OPERN).

Ms Kane has coordinated numerous conferences, and has conducted countless workshops and seminars. She has presented at top institutions including Harvard and Berkeley, and for professional organizations such as AASECT and SSSS. She has appeared on countless television and radio programs, and with few exceptions has logged more miles in service to the gender community than anyone.

- 30 -

Ariadne Kane
Recipient of the "Dr. Prince Award" for 1989

CONGRESS OF REPRESENTATIVES PROPOSAL

During the IFGE "Coming Together" Convention recently held in San Francisco, the following proposal was presented by Tammi McIntyre (representing Crossroads of MI) and her committee to the IFGE Board of Directors for approval. It was approved, and the IFGE Congress of Representatives became official.

We the undersigned, representing the recognized organizations throughout the gender community, hereby present the following proposal to IFGE:

We propose that a Congress of Representatives with the following purpose, membership, duties and responsibilities be formally recognized by IFGE as the primary contact with the international gender community organizations.

Purpose: The Congress of Representatives provides a means to transmit ideas, accomplishments and needs from IFGE to the delegates' organizations; to get feedback to IFGE; and to stimulate the delegates' organizations by informing them about what others around the community are doing. The Congress will also serve in a consultation and advisory capacity to the IFGE Board of Directors and to the IFGE national committees.

Members of the Congress: The Congress of Representatives is made up of delegates from the international gender community organizations. Any non-profit organization or group whose purpose is consistent with the goals and purposes of IFGE and desires direct communications with IFGE is entitled to have a delegate. Delegates are appointed by the recognized organizations and confirmed by a letter of appointment to the IFGE Board of Directors.

Duties and Responsibilities of Delegates:

Each member of the Congress of Representatives shall:

1) Provide monthly reports to their organizations on the information in the monthly bulletin provided by IFGE, and on local and regional activities of interest to their organizations.

2) Provide information on organization activities, questions and/or proposals to IFGE, if of a national interest, or to the other organizations within their region.

3) Keep the Directory of Organizations and Services information about their organization current, including:

a. name, address, and telephone contact of the organization delegate;
b. other means of contact such as computer bulletin boards;
c. day, time, and location of regularly scheduled meetings;
d. brief (one or two sentence) description of the organization's purpose;
e. any restriction on meeting attendance;

4) Commit to attending the annual "Coming Together" convention.

Duties and Responsibilities of IFGE:

IFGE shall:

1) Maintain the Organizations and Services directory and the list of delegates, and periodically send updated copies to the delegates.

2) Provide a monthly bulletin containing information from IFGE, the recognized organizations, and other items of general interest to the community.

3) Respond in a timely and direct manner to the questions and/or proposals relayed by the delegates.

COMMENTARY ON PROPOSAL
By: Merissa Lynn, Dir. IFGE

The proposal is an excellent one, and what is most encouraging is it was put together by the representatives, and not the IFGE staff. However, the proposal is only a starting point. There are many items yet to be clarified. For instance, the reps will also be in contact with IFGE's national committees (Educational Resources, Publications, Marketing, Membership, etc.). The reps will help choose the national leaders, and will vote on behalf of their organization. The reps will also serve in an advisory capacity with the IFGE Board of Directors.

This proposal is truly a significant step forward in the positive evolution of our community. Tammi McIntyre, Josephine Williamson, Irene Rubinski, Diane Ingram, and all the other reps who worked on its development should be acknowledged for their work, and congratulated on its completion. It is now up to all of us to ensure its success.

Michael Lokovich has been appointed IFGE Coordinator for the Congress of Representatives. Any comments or questions concerning the Congress should be sent to: Michael Lokovich, c/o P.O. Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778 USA

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CHRISTINE JORGENSEN MEMORIAL FUND

IFGE's **Christine Jorgensen Memorial Fund** has been established with the consent of Christine's family and the IFGE Board of Directors.

The purpose of this fund is to create a method by which individuals may provide (through financial contributions to IFGE) a living memorial which will contribute to the ongoing objectives of outreach, education, community identity, and services of the Foundation.

It is the wishes of Christine's family that this fund assist in the implementation of transsexual education and address other transsexual issues. This fund will assist in the publication of J2CP's 'Legal Aspects of Transsexualism', Jenny Stevens' 'how to' book on transition, and other publications still in the planning stages.

Contributions to the **Christine Jorgensen Memorial Fund** may be sent to: **c/o IFGE, P.O. Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778.**

Recognition of contributions will be made to the Christine Jorgensen Family, and, unless otherwise specified, published in the TV-TS Tapestry Journal.

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- IFGE ARCHIVES -

Waltham, MA: IFGE is interested in building an archives for the gender community:

Books (scholastic, biographical, literary, etc.)
Journals (newsletters, collectibles [i.e. Transvestias], etc.)
Research Material (legal case histories, news clippings, professional & medical presentations, articles, etc.)
Reference Material (DSM-III, Standards of Care, etc.)
Instructional Material ('How To' books, pamphlets, articles, etc.
Audio/Video Tapes (Public appearances, lectures, etc.)

IFGE is looking for anything that is of historical, academic, and literary interest. All contributions are tax deductible.

Send to: **IFGE Library, c/o P.O. Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778**

HOST ORGANIZATIONS FOR FUTURE CONVENTIONS

There is no question that ETVC did a terrific job as Host Organization for the 1989 'Coming Together' convention. In fact, they did such a terrific job that two organizations who had previously offered to serve as future hosts, withdrew their offers. The potential work load frightened them away. (ETVC had 18 months of planning and put over 60 people to work. No other organization wants to or is able to match that kind of effort.)

We now have a problem that affects our community as a whole. We want a convention that rotates between East, Midwest, West, North and South.... each time in a new city. That gives our people a chance to see new places and a chance to attend when distance would otherwise be prohibitive. It also gives us a chance to do outreach and public education in new areas. It also gives our community a chance to give support to organizations and services in different locations. It would be a sad situation indeed if we were restricted to Boston, Chicago, and San Francisco because they were the only cities with organizations strong enough or willing to serve as hosts.

Send your proposals, comments, and suggestions to: Betty Lee Johnson, Coordinator 'Coming Together', P.O. Box 122563, Fort Worth, TX 76121-2563 or to: Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Director 'Coming Together', P.O. Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778

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IFGE FOUNDATION TRUST FUND STARTED THANKS TO CROSS-PORT

Cross-Port of Cincinnati declared the month of May to be "IFGE Month". The members of Cross-Port held a raffle, collected door fees, and solicited contributions. During the 'BE All' luncheon on June 10, Linda Buten, Cross-Port Representative, presented Wendi Pierce, Chrprsn IFGE Board, and Merissa Lynn, Dir. IFGE, with a check for $150.00. The money was used as the initial deposit for IFGE's Trust Fund.

This act of charity is truly remarkable, for it is the first time in our community's history any individual support group has raised money for the benefit of all.

The formation of the Trust Fund was approved during the 'Coming Together' convention in April. The purpose was to take specially earmarked contributions, loans, unused rebates, etc. and create and build upon a fund that would never be touched. The income from that fund would then be used in service to our community. The fund is intended for the long run, and probably would not be touched for several years. Cross-Port's contribution is for our future.

(Pondering -- What could we do with the income from 50K? 500K? 1M? Provide grants? Fund research? Publish informational literature that would not otherwise pay for itself? You think about the possibilities, and in the mean time, think about how we can build the fund.)

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TEXAS:

It has been confirmed. During the Texas T-Party when a San Antonio tour guide identified Mission San Jose as the "Queen of the Missions," Virginia Prince took exception by stating, "I'm the Queen around here!"

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RESEARCH OF THE STONEWALL RIOTS

NYC: For an oral history of the Stonewall riots, I am seeking all participants, witnesses, police officers, Stonewall Inn employees, journalists and other interested and involved people who were present at any of the nights of rioting in June 1969. I would also like to interview people who were not at the riots but whose lives were directly or dramatically effected by them. I am especially interested in locating women and people of color who were present at the riots. I am looking for photographs, whether taken by a professional or amateur, of any of the nights of rioting. Any letters, diary entries, fliers, clippings or other documentary material on or generated by the Stonewall riots are also of great interest. The author's proceeds from the resulting book will be used to create a fund for gay and lesbian archives and history.

Please contact: Michael Scherker, P.O. Box 100391, Brooklyn, NY 11212 (718) 434-6814

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Books Available from Gender Worker, Box 1224, Sta. A, Toronto, ON M5W1G7

BODYSHOCK: The Truth About Changing Sex by Liz Hodgkinson - $18.00

"GENDER NETWORKER" newsletter (two 1988 issues) by Rupert Raj - $6.66

"INFORMATION ON F-M TRANSSEXUALISM" compiled by Rupert Raj - $10.00

IN SEARCH OF EVE: Transsexual Rites of Passage by Anne Bolin - $18.00

"METAMORPHOSIS MAGAZINE" (9 issues incl. two double issues) and "METAMORPHOSIS" news-

letter (24 issues) - for female-to-male transsexuals - $86.00 total; sample issue: $3.50
"STANDARDS OF CARE" - HBIGDA - $5.00
THE UNINVITED DILEMMA: A Question of Gender by Kim Stuart - $15.00
T.U.D. RESEARCH SUPPLEMENT - $15.00

*Prices are in U.S. funds. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

GENDER WORKER, Box 1224, A, Toronto, ON M5W1G7

SEE YOUR POETRY IN PRINT

Rhyming poems and free verse wanted for upcoming anthology of TS, TV & TG verse. Don't miss your chance to express yourself in print! Please specify credit line and gender status. Sent to GENDER WORKER, Box 1224, Sta. A, Toronto, ON M5W1G1

CROSSDRESSER'S INTERNATIONAL SHOPPING GUIDE

PPOC / BURBANK, CA

Announcing the publication of a new book for crossdressers... The Crossdresser's International Shopping Guide - 1989 Edition is a totally NEW resource for the crossdressing community.

Finally, a shopping guide for crossdressers. Listings of stores and businesses that cater to TVs and TSs plus many others that sell direct via mail order, WORLDWIDE! The most comprehensive book of its kind. PLUS, articles on how to find your correct sizes with size charts, mail order tips, product reports, the how and why of dressing and shopping "en femme", and much more.

This book will be distributed to the libraries of crossdressers clubs/organizations worldwide as well as being distributed by mail order and in retail outlets for the crossdressing individual.

Being published by John Moran Photography for PPOC, this quality book will be periodically updated to keep pace with new and changing resources and to keep the crossdresser informed of new products and items of interest. The book is available from a number of TV boutiques and by mail order from John Moran Photography.

ATTENTION ORGANIZATIONS:

You can participate in the shopping guide and generate profits from its sale! Money that your club/organization can use for activities, etc. The cover price of the guide is $7.50 and it will be sold for that via mail order PLUS a shipping/handling charge of $2.50 per copy, a total of $10.00.

However, you can save your members money and make a profit at the same time by selling the guide directly to them at meetings. Here's how: You can order the guide at the discount price of $5.00 per copy plus a shipping charge of $0.50 per copy (less if you order 20 or more copies at one time - write for info). This allows a markup and saves your members the shipping charge at the same time!!! Write to us to place your order or for more information.

PPOC, c/o John Moran Photography, P.O. Box 7217, Burbank, CA 91510-7217

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WESTMINSTER, MD

GENDER IDENTITY OUTREACH CENTER of MD announces new community outreach programs.

GIOC realizes the diverse sexual nature of the TV/TS community, and on that premise has developed a non-judgmental safe-sex educational program for sexually active crossdressers to help make sex safer. The program focuses on making high risk sexual behavior safer. This program, titled Dressing and Sex, was developed specifically for crossdressers and included information on aids and other sexually transmitted diseases and is presented in context relative to the crossdressing community.

The Dressing and Sex program is offered in a lecture type presentation as well as in printed form. Also, to help promote safe sex, GIOC is offering free condoms.

GIOC, in its sincere effort to reach all crossdressers that are isolated and do not have access to mainstream TV/TS support services, announces a telecommunication device for the deaf (TDD) service for hearing impaired and deaf crossdressers. GIOC is also committed to providing qualified interpreters at all Gender Center functions when necessary (2 weeks notice please).

Anyone interested in utilizing these services or wanting more information can call the Gender Center office at: **(301) 857-9671** or write: **Gender Identity Outreach Center U.S.A., P.O. Box 133, Westminster, MD 21157**

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Mensa Members Wanted!

Here in England I have assembled a group of 36 crossdressers who are also members of Mensa. I am now

looking for Mensa members in the USA. If you are a member of Mensa, please contact me.

Christine-Jane Wilson
c/o KRIS Publications
rear of 239 Preston Rd
Wembley, Middlesex HA9-8PE ENGLAND

COLLECTORS ITEMS -- a very limited stock of back issues of the original TRANSVESTIA MAGAZINE

Transvestia was one of the first and best non-erotic magazines for crossdressers ever published. Besides being collectors items, the Tranvestias contained a goldmine of information, history, true experiences, and letters; the kind of material that does not go out of date.

Virginia Prince announces she still has a stock of issues #67 through #100 (except #68, 69, 70, 71, 74, 75, 80, 81, and 85). She is willing to sell her Transvestias for:

$7.00 per issue, or **2 issues for $6.50** each, **3 issues for $6.00** each, **4 issues for $5.50** each, **5 or more issues for $5.00 each** **(Add $1.00 per book if you wish your order to be sent 1st class.)**

Since some issues may be sold out by the time you order, please indicate your choices in order of preference.

Please mail your order to: **Virginia Prince, Box 36091, Los Angeles, CA 90036**

LOS ANGELES, CA: A looseknit philosophical/spiritual group called 'Daughters of Isis' is forming to probe the origin and application of femininity as a guiding and enriching factor to their individual lives. The group will be comprised of feminists, lesbians, transsexuals, transgendered males, and other free thinkers.

For information, contact: Annelle Russell, P.O. Box 46848, Los Angeles, CA 90046

HOUSTON, TX: Tri-Ess has announced the Tau Chi Chapter of Houston has taken over the production responsibilities for Tri-Ess' national publication, the "Femme Mirror". Tau Chi is actively looking for contributions... feature articles, personal thoughts, poems, etc. (All contributions must reflect the objectives of Tri-Ess; non-erotic material for the heterosexual crossdresser.)

Send your literary gems to: Tau Chi Chapter, c/o Jane Ellen Fairfax, 8823 Sandstone, Houston TX 77036

PROPOSAL FROM JENNIFER WELLS: GENDER COMMUNITY BBS & DATA BASE

WALTHAM, MA 7/89: Jennifer Wells, coordinator of Compuserve's Genderline, sent IFGE the following proposal:

In recent years computerized bulletin board services (BBS's) have provided our community with new opportunities for outreach, for education, for sharing. This is a dramatically successful and growing part of our community's communication link. However, for numerous reasons all the current systems have shortcomings. Most are small volunteer systems with limited access. Others have nearly unlimited access but charge large fees, or have limited on-line storage capabilities.

The time has come for our community to pool its resources to provide an informational focus for clubs, researchers, educators and individuals. A focus consisting of an international computerized gender data base and bulletin board or networking system. Such a system would need to be able to be accessed through local access points or 800- numbers from nearly everywhere someone has an interest in our community. Such a system would require sophisticated computer technology and large storage capacity. (Genderline alone has over 500 megabytes of library, and this doesn't scratch the surface.) Such a system needs to be professionally managed to maintain the latest in accurate up-to-date information. Finally, such a system needs funding, and would have to be self-supporting.

This is a project for our future, and will require long-term planning. Please help me start the ball rolling. I ask that anyone interested in helping establish such a system contact me. Let's pool ideas, abilities, and resources. Let's prepare a prospectus, do a feasibility study, develop a marketing plan.

For such a system to become reality, we need the focus of IFGE, the Congress of Organizations, and the active participation of many people. We need to pool our collective resources, and work for the benefit of all. We can DO IT! Let's do it!

Jennifer Wells
P.O. Box 1417
Troy, NY 12181
(518) 432-7092

WALTHAM, MA 7/89: The International Foundation for Gender Education announces the newest acquisition to its lists of publications, "MY HUSBAND WEARS MY CLOTHES" by Peggy J. Rudd, Ed.D.

The expression "Clothes don't make the man," has never had greater meaning. Dr. Rudd is the wife of a

crossdresser and also serves on the Board of Tau Chi Chapter of Tri-Ess.

"MY HUSBAND WEARS MY CLOTHES" is a book about life with a crossdresser as perceived by his wife. The emotion of the book comes from her heart; the credibility from a strong educational background. Topics in the book include: A Wife's Introduction to Crossdressing; Liberation of the Total Person; A New Male Image; What Is Femininity?; The Crossdresser and His Parents; The Crossdresser and His Wife; Improving The Marriage; The Crossdresser and His Children; The Effects of Suppressed Femininity; Getting Professional Help; Learning To Love Your Husband Enfemme; and, Help from Organizations.

Copies of "MY HUSBAND WEARS MY CLOTHES" are available for $10.00 (plus $1.50 postage). Make checks/money orders payable to: IFGE. Mail to: IFGE, P.O. Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778. Please allow four to six weeks for delivery.

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IFGE CONTRIBUTIONS:

LIVING MEMORIALS

(Living memorials are sent to I.F.G.E. in memory of departed sisters, brothers, family members, and friends. Some memorials and contributions become a part of the permanent Foundation Trust Fund. Other memorials are given to a specified fund. I.F.G.E. wishes to express its heartfelt thanks to the individuals, families, and organizations who saw fit to remember their loved ones with a contribution to I.F.G.E.'s memorial Funds. These contributions will provide a lasting memorial to the memory of these friends and members of our community.

The Christine Jorgensen Memorial Fund: This fund has been established to assist in the implementation of transsexual education objectives and to address other transsexual issues. I.F.G.E. acknowledges the following contributors:

Joan H. (MA) - In memory of Dee Dee Watson
Eve B. (IL) - In memory of Karen Ulane
Dan Riley (IN) - In memory of Billy Tipton
Northwest Gender Alliance (OR)
Kerri R. (NH)
Ron Mast (PA)
Ginger S. (WI)

The I.F.G.E. Fund: Specially earmarked permanent and temporary contributions, unused rebates, etc. are deposited in this Fund. The income generated by the Fund will be used exclusively in service to our community. I.F.G.E. acknowledges the following contributors:

Cross-Port (OH)

I.F.G.E. wishes to thank those persons who have substantially contributed to its general operations. I.F.G.E. gratefully acknowledges the following members of the **"500 CLUB"** (for their accumulated gifts in the amount of $500.00 or more) and the members of the **"1000 CLUB"** (for their accumulated gifts in the amount of $1000.00 or more):

"500 CLUB"

Kyle Murray, Jessica Jaye, Robin Esch, Winnie Brant, Elizabeth Lehmann, Catherine Lynn Andrews, Audrey Moss, JoAnn Roberts, Josephine Williamson, Wendy Parker

"1000 CLUB"

Anonymous, Anonymous, Michelle Miles, Laura Reed, Diane Dixon, Natalie Peterson, Sheila Kirk, Vernon G. Porter

BREAST FORMS

Sexy, soft, bouncy & affordable. They have a fleshy color and nipple, and are custom made with the crossdresser in mind.

SIZES AND PRICES: 34-36B $97, 36-38C $117, 38-40D $137

We give full refund for forms returned within 10 days of receipt if not satisfied. Best of all, we provide remolding service in the event you damage your forms and should you change your mind on the size later, we will remold the forms to give you the exact size you desire. A nominal fee is charged for this service. Please inquire.

Allow 3-5 weeks for delivery, U.S. mail, 1st Class with return receipt. Personal checks accepted.

Send your order to:
H. MERZ, P.O. BOX 1155 BR. OFF., ROME, NY 13440

* Intended for bra insert only.

DIRECTORY OF ORGANIZATIONS AND SERVICES

(Updated July 1989)
(All organizations sorted according to postal zip code)

(For insertions, corrections, and deletions: IFGE Directory, P.O. Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778)
(New orgranizations, services, and individuals interested in forming new groups are welcome)

MASSACHUSETTS

INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR GENDER EDUCATION: I.F.G.E., Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778, (617) 894-8340. Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Director.

Nature: I.F.G.E. is a non-profit educational and service organization designed to serve as an effective communications medium, outreach device, and networking facility for the entire TV/TS Community and those affected by that Community.

Services: I.F.G.E. publishes the TV-TS Tapestry Journal and other publications relevant to the TV/TS theme. We sponsor an annual international convention. We serve as an international information and referral clearinghouse, speakers' bureau, and a safe, friendly "drop-in center" for emergency peer counselling and ongoing volunteer work.

TAPESTRY PUBLICATIONS: Tapestry, Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778 (617) 899-2212 Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Director.

Nature: Tapestry Publications is a division of I.F.G.E.

Services: The TV/TS Tapestry is I.F.G.E's primary publication. We also publish and market a wide variety of how-to books, presentation transcripts, anthologies of pertinent reprints, directories, and other timely material. Tapestry Publications is designed as the gender community's own publishing house.

IFGE CONGRESS OF REPRESENTATIVES: Congress of Representatives, P.O. Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778 (617) 894-8340 Michael Lokovich, Coordinator

Nature: The Congress of Representatives are individuals selected by independent organizations, services, and chapters to represent the special interests of their organizations. Also, the representatives serve as the communications conduit between their organizations, the IFGE national headquarters, the IFGE Board of Directors, the IFGE national committees, and with other organizations.

TIFFANY CLUB: Tiffany, Box 2283, Woburn, MA 01888. (617) 358-2305. Ms. Roberta D., President, Robin Esch, Rep

Nature: Tiffany is a non-profit social and educational organization for anyone desiring to explore and develop their total personality for the attainment of a peace of mind not otherwise possible. Tiffany provides support programs for the individual member, family, and friends.

Services: Tiffany services and activities include but are not limited to publishing the Rosebuds newsletter, operating a safe-house, and organizing "get-togethers", workshops, seminars, and beauty courses. Tiffany sponsors a formal Wives and Significant Others support group, an informal TS support group, parties, nights on the town, referrals, a speakers bureau, and group outings.

Security: Tiffany welcomes all mature and responsible persons who will exercise good manners, use common sense, and protect the security and peace-of-mind of all. Attendees must have met with and been cleared by a member of Tiffany's Screening Committee. Alternately, the applicant must present a letter of introduction from a qualified person to insure that the attendee understands Tiffany's objectives and will comply with Tiffany's code of conduct and security requirements.

TIFFANY CLUB WIVES SUPPORT GROUP: WSG, C/O Box 2283, Woburn, MA 01888, 617-358-2305. Sydney Tibbetts and Toini McDonald, Co-Directors.

Nature: Affiliated with the Tiffany Club. For those in a committed relationship with members in good standing at the Tiffany Club.

Services: Monthly meetings, one-on-one support, outings, and other events.

Security: See 'Tiffany Club'.

GENDER EXPRESSIONS: Bisley Enterprises, c/o P.O. Box 2434, Woburn, MA 01888

Nature: Commercial non-sexual TV/TS publication oriented towards the informational needs of the gender dysphoric community.

THE OUTREACH INSTITUTE: Outreach, Box 368, Kenmore Station, Boston, MA 02215. Ariadne Kane, Dir. (617) 277-3454 Betty Ann Lind, Rep

Nature: The Outreach Institute is a non-profit educational corporation. Outreach works primarily with Helping Professionals from the fields of Education, Guidance and Counselling, Therapy, Medicine, Law and Law Enforcement, Nursing, and Human Services.

Services: Outreach's programs include OPERN (Outreach Professional Evaluation and Referral Network), seminars and workshops, a newsletter, Fantasia Fair (a living/learning experience for both male and female crossdressers, transsexuals, and androgynes) and a book and publication service. A catalog of books and reprints is available for $5.00. Outreach also offers two information packets: one each for F-M and for M-F TSs at $25.00 each.

Security: Outreach's programs are highly sophisticated and strictly non-sexual. All participants in any Outreach program are expected to behave accordingly.

THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TRANSSEXUALS: Karen Aldrich, Box 9238, North Dartmouth, MA 02747-9238.

Nature: Transsexual support.

Services: Group sessions, peer counselling, social events, newsletter, public education, personal needs, guest speakers, referrals.

GENDER INFORMATION SERVICES: Box 9238, N. Dartmouth, MA 02747-9238.

Nature: Information and referral service.

Services: Books and pamphlets for sale. Referral service (fee required).

RHODE ISLAND
NEW HAMPSHIRE
MAINE - VERMONT

TRANSSUPPORT: TransSupport, Box 17622, Portland, ME 04101. 1-207-854-3528 Diana Obidowski, President.

Nature: Non-profit, non-sexual social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, their families, and friends.

Services: Monthly meetings. Inquire for time and place. Publishes 'Trans-Talk' newsletter.

Security: Inquire

CONNECTICUT

THE XX (TWENTY) CLUB (Hartford, CT): The XX Club, Box 80690, Forest Park Station, Springfield, MA 01138. Veronica Jean Brown, Director/Rep.

Nature: The XX Club is non-profit and non-sexual. It is a social, educational, medical, and outreach organization for persons interested in transsexualism. Friends and relatives are also welcomed, as are all those interested in or involved with the crossdressing community.

Services: The XX Club publishes a monthly newsletter. It holds two meetings each month (second and fourth Saturdays) at Christ Church Cathedral, 45 Church Street, Hartford.

The meetings include educational and medical presentations, outreach work, and information distribution. We also have social get-togethers, club parties, and other events.

Security: We place no security restrictions on people who wish to subscribe to our newsletter. However, any person wishing to attend our meetings must meet with and be cleared by a member of our screening committee, or present a letter of introduction from a qualified person to ensure that the attendee understands the XX Club's objectives and goals and that the individual will comply with security requirements and code of conduct. We request that all who attend our functions respect our anonymity.

GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC OF NEW ENGLAND: GICNE, 68 Adelaide Road, Manchester, CT 06040. The Reverend Clinton R. Jones, Director; 203-646-8651.

Service: Provides screening for pre-operative TS applicants desirous of hormone therapy. Also provides screening for sex reassignment surgery approval for pre-operative TSs who have met the requirements of the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association's Standards of Care.

THE CONNECTICUT VIEW: C/O Denise Mason, Box 2281, Devon, CT 06460.

Nature: "The View" is non-profit and non-sexual but respectful of its members' sexual preferences. Its objectives are to promote and propagate the friendship of the TV/TS community through education, support, and understanding of its members and their families.

Service: Punctual response to all communications, informative monthly newsletter, Wives Support Group, rap sessions, parties at various locations. Wig, makeup, clothing, and demeanor assistance available. Costs shared by participants.

Security: None. House parties on an invitational basis, bar parties open. All members are required to be discreet and tolerant of each other. Common sense and courtesy prevail.

HARRIET LANE'S TV SET: P.O. Box 4002, Wallingford, CT 06492 (203) 237-1968 (ask for Harriet Lane or Joanie Lassin) Rep: Harriet Lane

Nature: Home parties for TVs, TGs, TSs, and their immediate spouse or friends. Strictly social, and non-sexual. Positively no drugs allowed! Alcoholic beverages are allowed, but BYOB.

Services: Meetings 2nd & 4th Saturday each month. Membership $100.00 per year. Key members $250.00 (store clothes & have key between 9 a.m. - 11 p.m.). Information on TV activities. Newsletter.

Security: All TVs etc. must dress at the clubhouse. Dressing room provided. Discretion required. Contact Harriet or Joanie for phone interview & personal meeting.

NEW JERSEY

NEW NORTHERN NEW JERSEY CHAPTER: c/o Ms. Kimberly S. Grant, 7 Mill Road, Irvington, NJ 07111; 201-371-6577.

Nature: TS/TG support and social functions.

Services: The revised Northern New Jersey Chapter looks forward to serving the TS/TG Gender Community with individual and group counseling, referrals, and general support. Persons seeking TV information, support, and social functions are encouraged to contact Ms. Lynda Frank at 201-663-6772.

F_2M: c/o S.G., Box 615, Tenafly, NJ 07670. Dan Riley, Rep

Nature: A non-profit social and support organization created by and for female-to-male transsexuals and crossdressers. "Knowledge is the key to the door of gender-reassignment. Up-to-date information is essential."

Services: Social events in the New York area, confidential contacts, a comprehensive resource directory, and a newsletter. Compiling information necessary to the F-M transition into a central database. F_2M actively solicits correspondence: questions, concerns, and all items of F-M TS information are requested.

Security: We believe that confidentiality, and often anonymity are critical issues for TSs on our mailing list. All correspondence is considered confidential.

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY: Ms. Lynda Frank, Box 9192, Morristown, NJ 07960; 201-663-0772.

Nature: Open membership, non-sexual.

Services: Get-togethers the last Saturday of each month at various locations in northern NJ. Ms. Frank now handles the TV-related affairs of the dissolved Pine Brook, NJ chapter as well.

Security: Interview required.

EN FEMME MAGAZINE: En Femme Magazine, Box 7854, Trenton, NJ 08628.

Nature: Non-sexual magazine dealing with all aspects of the transvestite, transsexual, and female impersonator in a tasteful, dignified manner.

Services: Articles, interviews, stories, artwork, photos, classifieds.

SIGMA NU RHO CHAPTER TRI-ESS: Sigma Nu Rho, P.O. Box 9255, Trenton, NJ 08650

Nature: Social support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services/Security: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA.

THE JERSEY SHORE SYSTEM: Ocean County, NJ; 609-693-8849. 300/1200 baud, 8N1.

Nature: Computer Bulletin Board Service.

Services: Log on using the name APRIL MAY with the password of FRIENDS (all caps). This will get you into a sub-board of the main system. After you have logged on as above you may register the name of your choice for future access.

RENAISSANCE - SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY CHAPTER: c/o Emily Sheldon, P.O. Box 4457, Greenville, DE 19807

Nature: Non-profit, non-sexual social & support organization serving the gender community.

Services: Meetings 1st Saturday each month.

Security: Inquire

NEW YORK

NEW YORK CITY GENDER ALLIANCE: NYCGA, c/o Fem Fashions, 9 W 31st St, #7R, New York, NY 10001, 212-582-6823. Muriel Olive, Director.

Nature: Non-profit social organization for members and friends of the TV/TS community.

SEX INFORMATION AND EDUCATION COUNCIL OF THE UNITED STATES (SIECUS): SIECUS, 34 Washington Place, Rm. 52, New York, New York 10003. (212) 573-3850.

Nature: SIECUS is affiliated with the Department of Health Education of the School of Education, Health, Nursing, and the Arts Professions of New York University. SIECUS deals with all sexual issues, including gender expression.

12-STEP RECOVERY PROGRAM: New York City (212) 807-6798 J.L. White

Nature: Alcohol & substance abuse recovery program for CDs & TSs.

Services: Meetings 2nd Thursday of each month

Security: Inquire

THE GATHERING: The Gathering, P.O. Box 29, New York, NY 10021 Tele. 1-717-646-7736 7:00 - 11:00 pm (Jessica Babel)

Nature: A non-profit, non-sexual gender dysphoric support group devoted to assisting both males and females. Although membership is limited to persons who are TS, we invite TVs, TGs, and anyone seriously interested in gender dysphoria to attend our meetings.

Services: Meetings the 1st Sunday afternoon of every month to discuss common problems (meeting sites vary; inquire first), hear helping professionals, share experiences and information, and enjoy a pleasant social experience. Objectives include the development of a network of peer counsellors, distribution of pertinent literature, and resource guides to institutions and services. Publishes the "Passages" newsletter.

Security: Participation is open to all potential M-F and F-M pre-and post-operative transsexuals, friends, and relatives. Inquiry required.

EULENSPIEGEL SOCIETY: The Eulenspiegel Society, Box 2783 Grand Rapids Station, NYC, NY 10163, 212-477-6588.

Nature: For those with S/M and B/D fantasies. The oldest organization of its type.

Service: Frequent events specifically oriented toward the TV. Inquire for times and locations.

CHI DELTA MU CHAPTER, TRI ESS: Chi Delta Mu, c/o P.O. Box 9192, Morristown, NJ 07968 Lynda Frank, Rep

Nature: See "Society for the Second Self".

Services: Get-togethers the 2nd Saturday of each month in either northern New Jersey or southern Westchester County, NY. Very interested in attracting wives and girl friends. We have over 75 paid members, and have been in existence over five years.

Security: Private interview with Chapter President or qualified member.

METAMORPHOSIS: Box 6245, Broadway Station, Long Island City, NY 11106, 718-728-4615.

Nature: Psychotherapy and counselling for persons with gender identity/expression related problems.

LONG ISLAND FEMME EXPRESSION (LIFE): LIFE, Box 121, Ozone Park, NY 11416 JoAnn Marino, Rep.

Nature: Social support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services/Security: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA.

GENDER JOURNAL: c/o Jennifer Wells, Box 1417, Troy, NY 12181.

Nature: Newsletter for M-F TVs.

Services: Includes articles on current events, common sense, observations, beauty tips, and related matters.

GENDERLINE:

Nature: BBS (Compuserve Information Service).

Services: Nodes nationwide. Admission by subscription to Compuserve and by permission by System Operator HSX forum B (GO HSX 200 at any prompt). Discrete, support community for both TVs and TSs. Consists of closed forum, conference area, and extensive data library of factual information and archived discussions of topics of concern.

TRANSGENDERISTS' INDEPENDENCE CLUB (TGIC): TGIC, Box 13604, Albany, NY 12212-3604, 518-436-4513 (Thursdays 7-9 p.m., or leave a message and instructions for calling back.) Winnie Brant, Rep.

Nature: Non-sexual group offering support to crossdressers, transsexuals, mates, wives, and families.

Services: Two monthly parties, weekly support group raps, monthly mates/wives support group, bi-minthly newsletter, shopping guide, key club, and storage.

Security: We have a screening process to ensure the comfort and safety of all. You may feel sure of anonymity and our discretion.

ANDROGYNY UNLIMITED: Box 4887, Poughkeepsie, NY 12602, 914-462-7455. Roger E. Peo PhD, Director.

Nature: A private service providing counselling, research, education, and supporting services.

Services: Individual counselling is provided by Dr. Peo, a Board-certified sexologist. Counselling is primarily for the transvestite/crossdresser and/or his significant other. Counselling is also provided for persons who are trying to determine if they are crossdressers or transsexuals. Referrals are made where appropriate. Make-up and shopping services for clients are also available. Classes, seminars, and workshops on transgender issues and human sexuality are provided both for college and graduate-level students and other groups. Ongoing research is conducted on a variety of topics in the transgender field.

Security: Appointments for counselling can be made by phoning or writing Dr. Peo at the above address.

EON (Expressing Our Nature): EON, Box 6293, Camillus, NY 13031

Nature: EON is a non-profit, non-sexual social and educational peer support group. It is comprised mainly of committed couples, one of which is a cross-dresser.

Services: We have social get-togethers in a pleasant atmosphere at the home of one of our members. We also have non-dress discussion groups for our couples and friends. We have several shops available which cater to our members. We also have a very active wives support group.

Security: EON requires a screening by a member of their screening committee prior to invitation as a guest. If you would like to become a guest, please contact us through our P.O. box. We welcome all mature and responsible people who enjoy the company of friends who share a common interest. We emphasize good manners, lady-like behavior, support, and security for all.

(GROUPS FORMING: Tri-Ess, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275)

Niagara Falls area: Joan NY-2354-C

(GROUPS FORMING: Renaissance, Box 1263, King of Prussia, PA 19406)

Manhattan area: Carla Miller, (212) 545-1206

PENNSYLVANIA

TRANSPITT: Box 3214, Pittsburgh, PA 15230. Alexandra Sabina, Rep

Nature: TransPitt is a non-profit, non-sexual social organization with an open membership policy.

Services: Meetings the third Saturday of each odd-numbered month. Referrals.

Security: Meeting with Club officer.

TEENAGE CROSSDRESSING RESEARCH PROJECT: Sheila Kirk, c/o P.O. Box 3214, Pittsburgh, PA 15230

Nature: Long-term research project being conducted by a physician, a Boarded Specialist in OB-Gyn, with a research background.

Security: Parental approval required. The security of each teenager and his parents is a paramount consideration.

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER - RENAISSANCE: Teri Kay, c/o Box AD, Bensalem, PA 19020

Nature: Non-profit education and support for the gender community at large.

Services: Meetings 3rd Saturday of each month.

Security: Inquire

TRANSSEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP OF PHILADELPHIA: TS Support Group, P.O. Box 15836, Philadelphia, PA 19103. Nancy Ann Forrest, Director.

Nature: A non-profit, non-political support group for are, have been, or think they may be transsexual. The purpose of the group is to ease the loneliness, the feeling of uniqueness, and to provide hope through open-mindedness on a common ground of mutual respect. The thrust of the group is geared toward the whole person, not just their sex or gender, but rather all aspects-physical, mental, emotional, and physical.

Services: Our group meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at Dignity House, 252 South 12th Street, Philadelphia, PA. We have raps, workshops, and other events. There are no dues or fees; we are supported solely by donations. No person is turned away due to affectional status or inability to pay.

RENAISSANCE: Box 1263, King of Prussia, PA 19406. (215) 640-9449 (after 6:30 EST.) Alison Laing, Rep

Nature: Renaissance is a non-profit, non-sexual organization dedicated to the support and education of the transgendered community and the general population. It is an open group that accepts without judgement and helps individuals to grow at their own pace.

Services: For TVs and TSs. Monthly meetings with educational programs, Significant Other Support Group, Transsexual Support Group, TV rap groups, a monthly newsletter, and community activities. Call the Help Line 24 hours a day for information on the latest activities.

For professionals: Speakers Bureau with experienced and accomplished lecturers for college, university, radio, and television appearances anywhere in the US. Renaissance also publishes a series of Background Papers to help professionals and clients to understand transgender behavior.

Security: There is no screening process for prospective members. All member personal information is strictly confidential and available only to the Board of Directors.

CREATIVE DESIGN SERVICES: Box 1263, King of Prussia, PA 19406; 215-640-9449.

Nature: A commercial concern marketing a line of products and services for the TV/TS Community.

Services: Publish "Art and Illusion: a Guide to Crossdressing" and "LadyLike Magazine", sponsors "Paradise in the Poconos" weekends in May and September.

Security: None.

READING CHAPTER - RENAISSANCE: Susan Marshall, Box 14221, Reading, PA 19607

Nature: Non-profit education and support group for the gender community.

Services: Meeting schedule not available. Inquire.

Security: Inquire

(GROUPS FORMING: Renaissance, Box 1263, King of Prussia, PA 19406)

Harrisburg/York area: Elsa Larsen, Box 7412, York, PA 17404

MARYLAND - DELAWARE - DC VIRGINIA - WEST VIRGINIA

BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON: R. Lewis, Box 80724, Washington, DC 20004-0724. Roberta L., Rep

Nature: Non-profit social organization for members of the TV/TS community.

BALTIMORE CHAPTER TRI-ESS: c/o Tri-Ess, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275.

Nature: Heterosexual crossdressers' support group for TVs and their families.

Services: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA.

Security: Inquire.

SEXOLOGY ASSOCIATES, INC.: H. Martin Malin, PhD, 4835 Del Ray Avenue, Be-

thesda, MD 20814.

Nature: Counselling for transgendered persons.

JANUS/DC: c/o H. Martin Malin, PhD, 4835 Del Ray Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814.

Nature: Transsexual support. Not to be confused with the Society of Janus, a California S/M group with chapters having similar names.

GENDER IDENTITY OUTREACH CENTER USA: c/o Gary, Box 133, Westminster, MD 21157. Gary Fannin, Dir.

Nature: A non-profit nationwide support system for all transgender persons.

Services: A 24-hr hotline with TDD access for the hearing impaired and deaf. Monthly right-to-know workshops on issues pertinent to crossdressers. A monthly publication "The TV's Guide" and a "three for free" condom distribution center for the crossdressing community with an AIDS outreach program specifically designed for crossdressers.

Security: Open to all persons interested in transgender issues and the TV/TS liberation movement. All information is kept strictly confidential and available to the center's director.

ACADEMY AWARDS OF WASHINGTON, DC: 5104 South 11th Street, Arlington, VA 22202.

Nature: Theatrical drag, with emphasis on the performing arts.

BUTTERFLY COUPLES OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA: NOVA, c/o 4835 Del Ray Ave, Bethesda, MD 20814 Irene Rubinski, Rep

Nature: Social/support group for TVs, TSs, and their significant others. An emphasis on people in committed relationships.

Services: Social activities.

Security: Inquire.

DELTA CHI EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (DCEA): DCEA, P.O. Box 16036, Arlington, VA 22215 Cheryl Thompson, Rep

Nature: Social/support group for TVs, TSs, and their significant others.

Services: Social activities, meetings one a month. Publishes "The Pinnacle" newsletter.

Security: Inquiry needed.

CENTER FOR GENDER REASSIGNMENT: Deborah M. Gilbert, R.N., Coordinator, 400 W. Brambleton Avenue, Suite 300, Norfolk, VA 23510. (804) 623-1090.

Nature: Intake and evaluation center for persons seeking permanent gender reassignment and SRS.

Services: A carefully prepared gender transition program which meets or exceeds all aspects of the Harry Benjamin Standards of Care for transsexually inclined persons.

Security: Applicants to this program are subjected to a thorough screening by a highly qualified staff of medical and gender professionals. An 18-month period of successful cross-living and a minimum of six months' hormone therapy is required prior to consideration for surgery.

PASSING FANCY: Alexandria, VA 703-765-6290; 300/1200/2400 baud, 8N1.

Nature: Computer Bulletin Board Service. Both a public and a private section. The private section is available for subscribers only. Answer the "SYSTEM ID" prompt with "FANCY" to gain access to the public section.

(GROUPS FORMING: Tri-Ess, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275)

Washington DC area: Cathi DC-2075-M

Baltimore area: Diane MD-2633-P

Richmond, VA area: Christina VA-2250-S

Charleston, WV area: Alona WV-1730-M

NORTH CAROLINA
SOUTH CAROLINA
GEORGIA - FLORIDA

PHOENIX: Phoenix, c/o J. Britton, 54 Fulton St, Asheville, NC 28801

Nature: Non-profit TV/TS support group. Significant others and friends welcome.

Services: Irregularly scheduled meetings. Inquire for time and location. 1 on 1 meetings if requested.

Security: Good manners, common sense, protect the security and peace of mind of all.

SIGMA EPSILON - TRI ESS: Sigma Epsilon, P.O. Box 55144, Atlanta, GA 30308

Nature: Social and support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA

Security: Inquire

THE TRANSSEXUAL VOICE: Box 16314, Atlanta, GA 30321.

Nature: A newsletter written by and about transsexuals. $2.00 per copy; $12.00 per year.

THE MONTGOMERY FOUNDATION, INC.: Gender Dysphoric Association, Box 33311, Decatur, GA 30033. Jerry Montgomery, Rep

Nature: Strictly a support group for F-M and M-F pre- and post-op transsexuals. No fees.

Services: Referrals, rap sessions, and programs designed for the needs of the transsexual.

CENTRAL FLORIDA SISTERS (or PHI EPSILON MU): c/o Dale Larson, 11 Westchester Dr., Kissimmee, FL 34744 Ms Dale Larson, Rep.

Nature: Non-profit, non-sexual social support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.

Services: Meetings 1st Saturday of each month.

Security: Screening before attendance. Good manners and common sense.

ORLANDO CHAPTER, TRI-ESS: c/o Tri-Ess, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275.

Nature: Heterosexual crossdressers' support group for TVs and their families.

Services: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA.

Security: Inquire.

SERENITY: Serenity, Box 307, Hollywood, FL 33022. 305-966-2138 (8:30-10:30 a.m., 9:00-11:30 p.m.) Josephine Williamson, Rep

Nature: Social/support group for TVs, TSs, and their significant others.

Services: Meetings 2nd Friday of each month at the Church of the Holy Spirit (MCC), 330 SW 27th St., Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Newsletter.

Security: Inquire.

BLOSSOM'S SAFE HOUSE: Blossom C. Paster, 28417 Trident Court, Wesley Chapel, FL 34249. (813) 973-0987.

Nature: A private setting where CDs can take their wardrobe, makeup, questions, and problems.

Services: Peer counselling, problem solving, dressing, electrology, and makeup advice by a longtime professional member of the Gender Community. There is a nominal fee.

Security: Call or write.

(GROUPS FORMING: Tri-Ess, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275)

Jacksonville area: Stephanie FL-2447-R

Pensacola area: Joan FL-2520-B

St. Petersburg area: Samantha FL-2404-D

Charlotte NC area: Julie NC-2241-A

Florence SC area: Julie NC-2241-A

ALABAMA - MISSISSIPPI
TENNESSEE - KENTUCKY

BETA CHI CHAPTER OF TRI-ESS IN MISSISSIPPI: Beta Chi, P.O. Box 31253, Jackson, MS 39206-1253; 601-362-4549. Hotline: (601) 982-7678 (24 hrs). Lee Frances, Secretary. Lee Frances, Rep

Nature: Social support group for crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA. Publishes "Premiere" newsletter.

Security: Inquire.

(GROUPS FORMING: Tri-Ess, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275)

Memphis TN area: Thomasina TN-1402-M

Knoxville TN area: Lori TN-2402-M

OHIO
INDIANA - MICHIGAN

CRYSTAL CLUB: Crystal Club, P.O. Box 287, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-0287 Susan Pierce, Rep

Nature: An open support group for TV, TS, and others who cross-dress with a full feminine identity. We provide a non-threatening environment for crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: Meetings the 4th Saturday of each month at 7:00 p.m. with a meeting fee of $15.00. Peer support, newsletter. Buyers guide in preparation. We cooperate with neighboring organizations such as Alpha Omega, Paradise, and Cross-Port.

Security: Inquire. Include a brief biography of yourself, and tell them where you heard about us.

ALPHA OMEGA CHAPTER, TRI-ESS: Alpha Omega, Box 954, Elyria, OH 44036

Nature: A social support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their families.

Services: Bi-monthly meetings. Publish the Alpha Omega Outreach newsletter.

Security: Membership and attendance at a meeting requires the approval of a qualified Alpha Omega officer.

PARADISE CLUB: Paradise, P.O. Box 29564, Parma, OH 44129. Susan Damon, Rep

Nature: Paradise is a non-profit, non-sexual social organization with an emphasis on friendship and support, especially for wives. Paradise has approximately 90 members, with an average of 50+ in attendance at each meeting.

Services: Paradise publishes a newsletter (Paradise Tales), and sponsors a meeting every other month with a catered dinner and usually a special event such as a speaker, make-up advice, a show, or other event of interest.

Security: Paradise welcomes all mature and responsible. We place emphasis on manners, common sense, and the security of all.Membership is offered only after a personal interview with an officer. Non-members may attend meetings with the concurrence of an officer. Open membership, but all members must be crossdressers, and must dress at meetings.

CROSS-PORT: Box 12701, Cincinnati, Ohio 45212 1-513-631-0732. Linda Buten, Rep

Nature: Cross-Port is a non-profit, non-sexual organization for the male-to-female and the female-to-male crossdresser and transsexual, and supportive friends regardless of sexual preference, practices, or orientation.

Services: Cross-Port distributes a monthly newsletter to all members.

Security: All guests and members are expected to conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen. Common sense is the rule. The mailing and membership lists are confidential. No member shall reveal the true name, address, telephone number, or profession of any other member to anyone, except with the other member's express permission.

INDIANA CROSSDRESSERS SOCIETY (Iota Chi Sigma): IXE, Box 20710, Indianapolis, IN 46220. Bobbi Alyson, Rep

Nature: A non-profit TV/TS social/support group.

Services: We currently have about 20 members and have been meeting monthly in Indianapolis. Our BBS is up and running! Dial (317) 784-6975, select "KINKY BBS", leave E-Mail for "BOBBI ALYSON" or "SYSOP".

Security: Inquire.

CROSSROADS CHAPTER: Club address: Crossroads, c/o , Box 1245, Royal Oak, MI 48068-1245. Milesa Phar, President. Business address: Box 1298, Flint, MI 48501. Phone messages: 313-446-0782. Tamara Jean McIntyre, Rep

Newsletter Editor: Kary & Laura I., Box 40715, Redford, MI 48240.

Nature: Crossroads is a non-profit, non-sexual social organization emphasizing friendship, support, and the peace of mind of all. Crossroads has a formal membership of approximately 90 and an informal membership of approximately 250.

Services: Crossroads publishes a newsletter (Crossroads Chatter) and sponsors both formal and casual social activities. We provide referrals to other organizations nationwide, and to helping professionals in the Great Lakes area. We also investigate agencies, businesses, and organizations, and do considerable outreach work and publicity for the paraculture.

Security: Crossroads welcomes all mature and responsible people, and emphasizes good manners, common sense, and the security of all.

CROSSROADS OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN: See Crossroads Chapter, above.

CROSSROADS SPEAKERS BUREAU: Milesa Phar, Box 196, Garden City, MI 48135.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CROSSDRESSERS: NAC, P.O. Box 497, Glint, MI 48501 Grace Bacon, Dir.

Nature: An organization dedicated to education and outreach.

Services: Publishes and distributes the informational pamphlet "An Overview of Crossdressing, Transvestism, and Transsexualism".

NATIONAL GENDER DYSPHORIA ORGANIZATION AND SUPPORT GROUP: N.G.D.O, Box 02732, Detroit, MI 48202; 313-842-5258. Justina Williams, President.

Nature: N.G.D.O. is a non-profit organization serving gender dysphoria victims and crossdressers. It is a "crossover" organization into the general public.

Services: N.G.D.O. publishes a newsletter (N.G.D.O. Keys to Freedom) and sponsors support groups for gender dysphoric persons, crossdressers, and parents. N.G.D.O. also sponsors Bible reading groups, a speaker's bureau, and conventions.

N.G.D.O. GRAND RAPIDS SUPPORT GROUP: 616-361-5459 (Ask for Becky)

Nature: See N.G.D.O. Detroit listing.

Services: Complete details not available at this time; call.

I.M.E. OF WESTERN MICHIGAN: Box 1153, Grand Rapids, MI 49501. Katheryn Ann Baliki, Rep

Nature: Social, support, and educational group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others, regardless of sexual orientation.

Services: Social outlet of the Cross Dresser. Mail forwarding. We have the services of a MSW social worker free of charge to members. Lectures and referrals. Monthly meetings and socials.

Security: All member files are strictly confidential. Prospective members must sign a pledge of confidentiality.

(GROUPS FORMING: Tri-Ess, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275)

Toledo OH area: Joyce OH-1449-B

(GROUPS FORMING: Renaissance, Box 1263, King of Prussia, PA 19406)

Columbus area: Forming Group, Box 287, Renoldsburg, OH 43068

IOWA - WISCONSIN
MINNESOTA - NO. DAKOTA
SO. DAKOTA - MONTANA

IOTA ALPHA CHAPTER, TRI ESS: Iowa Artistry, Box 75, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406.

Nature: Heterosexual crossdressers' support group for TVs and their families.

Services: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA.

Services: Inquire.

CHANGING MEN: Editorial Office & Subscriptions, 306 N. Brooks St, Madison, WI 53715

Nature: An international magazine dealing with the issues of gender, sex, and politics.

MINNESOTA FREEDOM OF GENDER EXPRESSION: MFGE, Box 17945, St. Paul, MN 55117. Robin Linse, Rep.

Nature: An open service and peer support group for trans-gender persons, their significant others, and interested persons.

Services: Newsletter, peer support, services listings for members.

Security: Interview required, confidential membership listings used for newsletter and related organizational mailings only.

SCD PUBLISHING: c/o Nancy Lawson, Box 6322, Minneapolis, MN 55406.

Nature: TV/TS publishing house.

Services: Publishes TV/TS Talk bi-monthly for members and supporters of the TV/TS Community. TV/TS Talk is modeled after the Penthouse Forum, but deals exclusively with gender related issues. $3.50 per issue; $21.00 per year.

PROGRAM IN HUMAN SEXUALITY: University of Minnesota, Research East Building, 2630 University Avenue SE, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414. Call (612) 376-7520 to schedule an intake session.

Nature: A professionally managed gender program based on the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association Standards of Care. Administered by the University's Department of Family Practice and Community Health.

Services: Presently treats about 250 gender dysphoric clients. The program provides intake screening, diagnosis, alternative options and pre-surgery issues counselling, family and children's services, physical health care, and related assistance in a fully professional environment. The Program offers support and psychological services for families and children of gender dysphoric people as well.

CITY OF LAKES CROSSGENDER COMMUNITY (CLCC): Box 16265, Minneapolis, MN 55416. (612) 933-5288. Lee Ann Landsteiner, Rep

Nature: Monthly meetings. The group's purpose is to provide a comfortable social setting for cross-dressers to meet like-minded folks. We are a non-sexual group when together; however, personal orientation is not considered when newcomers apply to join us.

Security: A personal interview before coming to the first party.

CAROLYN'S CLOSET: Minneapolis, MN; 612-452-2676; 300/1200 baud, 8N1.

Nature: Computer Bulletin Board: Totally free. A very nice, user-friendly board with some very nice user-written fiction and stories.

(GROUPS FORMING: Tri-Ess, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275)
Minneapolis area: Salli MN-1560-B

ILLINOIS

THE CROSSDRESSER'S BUREAU: G. Wright, Box 172, Gumee, IL 60031.
Nature: Newsletter.
Services: The definitive source for news on and about crossdressers and crossdressing in the Chicagoland area as well as articles and information of interest to all. This monthly publication is now available by subscription to anywhere in the US and Canada. Six issues for $6.00, twelve issues for $10.00.

CHI CHAPTER - TRI ESS: Box 40, Wooddale, IL 60191-0040. Hot Line: 312-364-9514. Naomi Owen, Rep
Nature: Chicago Chapter of the Society for the Second Self, a non-profit organization for heterosexual crossdressers.
Services: Social activities, a support group for wives and girlfriends, a help line, newsletter, library, speakers bureau, and co-sponsor of "Be All You Want To Be" weekend. Meetings the 3rd Saturday of each month, annual family picnic, Awards Banquet, Christmas Party.
Security: Inquire.

CHICAGO GENDER SOCIETY: CGS, Box 578005, Chicago, IL 60657. (312) 975-8412. Rachel Richards, Rep
Nature: Non-profit social and educational support group for TVs, TSs, their significant others, and supportive friends.
Services: Professional referrals, business and social events several times a month, annual Miss CGS Pageant, picnics, mail forwarding, monthly newsletter.
Security: Inquire.

CHAMELEONS CLUB: c/o Gwenevere Ferguson, 505 W. Vine St., Springfield, IL 62704
Nature: A new group (first meeting in March 1989) for TVs, TSs, CDs, and SOs.
Services: Social functions and personal growth support.
Security: Write for details.

MISSOURI - KANSAS
NEBRASKA - ARKANSAS

ST LOUIS GATEWAY FEMMES: SLGF, Box 1262, St. Louis, MO 63188.
Nature: A social/support group for the TV/TS Community and interested professionals. Provides members the opportunity to dress at meetings, share experiences, improve feminine abilities, and give each other the support we all need. Meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of each even numbered month.
Services: A bi-monthly newsletter, the Gateway Femmes Gazette, club business cards, and a membership directory.

CROSSDRESSERS AND FRIENDS: c/o Randi Campbell, Box 4092, Overland Park, KS 66204.
Nature: Support for crossdressers and friends.
Services: Inquire.
Security: Inquire.

RIVER CITY: Box 1305, Belleview, NE 68005. Judy Adams, Rep
Nature: Non-profit educational, support, and social group for TVs, TSs, and significant others.
Services: We currently have about 20 members, meet monthly in Omaha, and have a newsletter "The Transformer". We network with other groups and sisters. We work with local helping professionals, perform outreach, and maintain files of educational and resource material including listings of local services.
Security: Inquire.

RHO CHI RHO CHAPTER - TRI ESS: River City Ruffles, Box 24060, Omaha, NB 68124-0060
Nature: Social support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.
Services/Security: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA.

(GROUPS FORMING: Tri-Ess, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275)
Topeka KS area: Vicky KS-1742-K
Wichita KS area: Julie KS-2294-K
St Louis MO area: Randi MO-1693-D

LOUISIANA
TEXAS - OKLAHOMA

TRI DELTA CHI, TRI ESS: Tri Delta Chi, Box 870213, New Orleans, LA 70187-1300. Lee or Denise, Rep
Nature: New Orleans chapter of the Society for the Second Self serving members in southeast Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and northwest Florida. We are in the growing stage and are publishing newsletters and holding meetings on a sporatic basis. This is an organization for heterosexual crossdressers and their wives/S.O.'s, and is primarily a "social" support group.
Services: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA.
Security: Mailing list for newsletter is open, for a fee of $5.00 yearly. Attendance at meetings and functions requires screening by Board.

AR-LA-TX TRANSSEXUAL CONNECTION: c/o Cecil Brown, 3022 Dallas St., Shreveport, LA 71104
Nature: A contact service to connect transsexuals with male admirers who are interesting and caring people. The membership is mixed with many black transsexuals, male admirers, and female impersonators. Services are free.
Services: Inquire

DALLAS CHAPTER - TRI ESS: Dallas Chapter, Box 461041, Garland, TX 75046. Suzanne Parker, Rep
Nature: Social, for heterosexual TVs and their significant others.
Services: Social activities; publish the DFW New Missies newsletter.
Security: Membership and attendance requires an interview with a chapter officer.

GULF COAST TRANSVESTITE CHAPTER: Attn: Jackie Thome, P.O. Box 441754, Houston, TX 77244
Nature: Social support group for CDs, TSs, and SOs.
Services: Inquire
Security: Inquire

TAU CHI CHAPTER - TRI ESS: Tau Chi, Box 533, Richmond, TX 77469. Jane Ellen Fairfax, Rep
Nature: Social support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.
Services: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA.
Security: Membership and attendance requires an interview with the chapter president.

BOULTON AND PARK SOCIETY: Box 169652, San Antonio, TX 78280-3252. Hotline: 512-657-2540. Janice Rupard, Rep
Nature: open, non-profit, non-sexual. Social and peer support plus local information for transsexual, transvestic, and transgendered folks, their families and friends.
Services: Meetings, newsletter (Gender Euphoria), business directory, outreach to helping professionals, plus a national outreach program for individuals referred to us.
Services: You are expected to be mature enough to exist with others in social situations, exercising good manners and good sense in protecting the security and peace of mind of all. Before attending your first soiree you must meet with a designated member. If we aren't comfortable with you, you won't be invited to attend.

HEART OF TEXAS TV: Heart of Texas TV, Box 402, Austin, TX 78767 (512) 892-6454. Edwina Wilson, president.
Nature: A social and support group for CDs, TSs, their families and friends. Emphatically NOT a therapy group or gay dating service.
Services: Meetings the 3rd saturday of every month (dressing not required). Anyone with an interest in crossdressing is welcome to inquire. Publishes a quarterly newsletter "Cross Currents".
Security: Interested persons must complete a questionnaire and be interviewed.

(GROUPS FORMING: Tri-Ess, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275)
Amarillo TX area: Sally TX-2831-F

COLORADO - UTAH
WYOMING - IDAHO

GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC: Tomye Kelley, MA, 8972 Oberon Rd, Arvada, CO 80004 (303) 420-9885.
Nature: Practice limited to work with crossdressers, the gender conflicted, and their significant others.
Services: Private one-on-one psychotherapy, weekly support groups, process groups for those in or preparing for transition. Also a professional Speaker's Forum.

GENDER IDENTITY CENTER OF COLO-

32nd Avenue, Denver, CO 80211; 303-458-5378. Jill Benedict, Rep

Nature: A non-profit, tax-exempt, educational and affiliative organization designed to provide a public service to the community.

Services: G.I.C. provides information and education on the issues of cross-dressing and gender conflict through a library of books and journal articles, rap sessions, workshops and seminars, and guest speakers from various areas of the community. These areas include medical, legal, insurance, personal grooming, male and female appearance and behaviors, and other related matters. G.I.C. also provides a Speaker's Bureau and a 24-hour hotline.

DELTA CHAPTER TRI-ESS (Denver): Delta Chapter, c/o Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275 (temporary mailing address).

Nature: Social support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services/Security: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA.

THE INTERNATIONAL GENDER EDUCATION RESPONSE: TIGER, Box 17442, Denver, CO 80217.

Nature: Non-profit legal advocacy task force for the crossdressing and transsexual community.

Services: Building and utilizing a legal defence fund to fight for your right to crossdress. All donations are gratefully accepted. Affiliated with ETVC of San Francisco.

CROSS LINK: Denver, CO: 1 (303) 665-3746. 300/1200 baud, 8 bits, 1 stop bit, no parity.

Nature: Computer Bulletin Board Service

Services: When you log on you will see, "You have reached M&D's Travelling Circuits BBS Where YOU Are the Main Attraction!" Name? Last Name? Follow instructions, answer questions. Enter the name "CROSS-LINK".

ALPHA RHO, SALT LAKE CITY CHAPTER, TRI-ESS: Alpha Provesta, Box 26711, Salt Lake City, UT 84126. Mary Ann Lewis, Rep.

Nature: Heterosexual crossdressers' support group for TVs and their families.

Services: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA.

Security: Inquire.

GENDER IDENTITY COMMITTEE: Department of Psychiatry, University of Utah, College of Medicine, 50 North Medical Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84132; 801-581-7951. Dr. Nyla J. Cole, MD.

Services: Details not available at this time.

(GROUPS FORMING: Tri-Ess, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275)

Moscow ID area: Laurie ID-1704-W

ARIZONA
NEW MEXICO - NEVADA

A ROSE: A Rose, Box 4351, Scottsdale, AZ 85261. Charlotte Cades, Rep

Nature: A non-sexual support group for TVs, TSs, their wives, friends, and relatives.

Services: Social activities, meetings, educational programs. Publishes 'A Rose News' monthly newsletter.

Security: Inquire

ALPHA ZETA CHAPTER TRI-ESS: Alpha Zeta, Box 24459, Tempe, AZ 85285-4459. Diane Ingram, Rep

Nature: A support group for heterosexual crossdressers, and their significant others.

Services: Social activities, monthly meetings. Publishes "The Cactus Flower' newsletter.

Security: Before attending, and interview with a chapter officer is required.

PHI CHAPTER - TRI ESS (FIESTA): Phi Chapter, Box 1842, Farmington, NM 87499. Glenda Rene Jones, Rep.

Nature: The New Mexico chapter of Tri-Ess.

Services: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA.

OTRAS AMIGAS: Otras Amigas, P.O. Box 44082, Rio Rancho, NM 87124

Nature: We are an open, egalitarian, non-sexual, creative group seeking to combine personal growth and fun interaction with "other friends." We wish to work together to provide innovative opportunities for living out the natural enjoyments that we share.

Services: Outreach and educational services are our goals as well as networking with the local TV/TS support group and Fiesta Tri-Ess Chapter.

Security: Amigas welcomes all mature and responsible persons who will use good judgment and common sense for the benefit of each other's well being.

DOUBLE IMAGE: Box 71795, Las Vegas, NV 89170-1795, Rochelle Valentine, Rep

Nature: A non-profit support group for TVs, TSs, crossdressers, and family.

Services: Inquire.

Security: Inquire.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

AMERICAN TRANSSEXUAL EDUCATION CENTER: A.T.E.C, 1626 N. Wilcox Avenue, Suite 584, Hollywood, CA 90028; 213-469-7559 or 213-664-4098. Amanda Costlow, Director

Nature: New grassroots TS organization offering a variety of actual and proposed services to the TS community.

Services: Information exchange, referral, literature, peer counseling, speakers, and home crisis intervention. Willing to help the TS in any way possible.

ALPHA CHAPTER TRI-ESS: c/o Charlene Day, Box 3501, Arcadia, CA 91006 (213) 876-6141 Virginia Prince, Rep

Nature: Social and support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA.

CROSSDRESSER HETEROSEXUAL INTERSOCIAL CLUB (CHIC): CHIC, Box 562, Duarte, CA 91009. Information/Speakers Bureau: 714-993-7142. Linda McKim, Rep

Nature: CHIC is for heterosexual transvestites or crossdressers only, their wives, professional people (MDs, psychologists, teachers, etc.), and friends. We are a local Southern California organization. We offer support and friendship, and stress security and good manners.

Services: We sponsor meetings, parties, monthly dinners, and seminars on make-up, wigs, clothes, and other topics of interest. We publish a monthly newsletter (CHIC Clippings) and sponsor educational programs for the public. Meetings held 2nd Saturday night of each month.

Security: Meetings are closed except to members and approved guests. All guests must be screened and approved by two Board members and (if a home meeting) the hostess. Prospective members must apply with a written application, be interviewed by two members of the Membership Committee, and then approved by the Board of Directors. CHIC emphasizes strict security for all its members and guests.

NATIONAL GENDER PROJECT: Box 126, Northridge, CA 91328 Dr. Richard F. Docter, PhD, Director, Department of Psychology, California State University Northridge, Northridge, CA 91330; 818-885-2828.

Nature: Individual and marital counselling for TVs, TS, and their significant others; research on gender issues.

Services: Counselling and research on gender issues. (Dr. Richard Doctor's new book, Transvestites and Transsexuals: Toward a Theory of Cross-Gender Behavior is now available from I.F.G.E., Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778. $29.50 plus $2.50 shipping and handling.)

FEMININE IMAGE: c/o Alicia, Box 1771, Ontario, CA 91762; 619-244-4481. Alicia Lichy, Rep

Nature: TV/TS club offering support, problem solving regardless of your sexual preference or practices.

Services: Meetings on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Social activities and group outings. Novices welcome.

Security: High regard for discretion.

IOTA EPSILON ("INLAND EMPIRE"): Donna Martin, P.O. Box 245, West Covina, CA 91793

Nature: Social support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA

Security: Inquire

NEUTRAL CORNER: Neutral Comer, Box 12581, San Diego, CA 92112. TV/TS information line 236-1586 Jo Robinson, Rep

Nature: A self-help group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their families. Its purpose is to help its members live a normal and productive life.

Services: Serving San Diego County with social and educational programs, a communication network, monthly meetings, membership consulting, wives' and families' input, a buyer's guide, and a list of helping professionals.

Security: Inquire.

GENDER DYSPHORIA PROGRAM OF ORANGE COUNTY, INC.: 31815 Camino

Capistrano, Suite L, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675; 714-661-7332.

Nature: A comprehensive program for gender dysphoric persons. Our program is one of many options available. It is a composite of evaluative and treatment techniques developed over the years by the more successful programs, which permit extensive screening and interaction of the patient at minimum cost, integrating the patient into the mainstream of society.

Services: Our program is structured to permit the patient to explore alternatives to sex reassignment while providing an effective support mechanism during transition. Our program is a 4-block procedure consisting of intake, transition/support, surgery approval/disapproval, and follow-up.

J2CP INFORMATION SERVICES: Box 184, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693-0184; 714-496-5227. Sr Mary Elizabeth, Rep

Nature: J2CP provides information and referral services formerly provided by the Erickson Educational Foundation and the JANUS Information Facility.

Services: J2CP provides an information package consisting of pamphlets and literature concerning Gender Dysphoria Syndrome, TVism, and TSism. This info package is available at a cost of $25.00 to cover research, printing, secretarial, and postage services. J2CP also provides referrals to reputable counselors, psychotherapists, gender programs, and peer groups near your home. Certified checks and money orders should be made payable to J2CP Information Services. Please specify whether you are M-F TS, F-M TS, or TV. If TS, please provide your place of birth.

OMEGA CHI TRI-ESS (Orange County, CA): Omega Chi, Box 9091, Anaheim, CA 92802.

Nature: social support group for crossdressers and their significant others.

Services/Security: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA.

POWDER PUFFS OF ORANGE COUNTY (PPOC): PPOC, P.O. Box 9091, Anaheim, CA 92812 Hotline: (714) 779-9013 weekdays 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Joan Elizabeth Goodnight, Rep

Nature: Open non-sexual social club for crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: Meetings on the 3rd Saturday of each month.

Security: Interview by club officer.

DELTA CHI CHAPTER - TRI ESS: Delta Chi Chapter, P.O. Box 944, Woodland Hills, CA 91365

Nature: Non-profit support group for TVs and other crossgendered individuals.

Services: Monthly meetings & socials, workshops, rap sessions.

Security: Names and addresses used only for internal roster and club mailings; access only by Chapter officers. All members are expected to honor all confidences placed in them by other members. Contact Chapter President for information about attending meetings.

CHI CHI CHI: Chi Chi Chi, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275.

Nature: Social and support group for crossdressers and their significant others.

Security/Services: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA

SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF: Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275 Marlene L., Rep

Nature: Tri-Ess is a non-profit organization exclusively for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: Tri Ess provides a correspondence directory, a directory of commercial services, a magazine (the Femme Mirror), and chapters throughout the US.

Security: Membership in Tri Ess is open to heterosexual TVs only. Membership and attendance at a local chapter meeting requires an interview with the chapter president or older member to insure that the applicant is heterosexual and will comply with the Tri Ess code of conduct.

GENDER COMMUNITY ADVOCATES: GCA, c/o Ms. Tauria Linala, 512 W. Evergreen, Santa Maria, CA 93454; 805-922-1309 (9am - 5pm PST Mon - Thurs)

Nature: GCA is a non-profit educational project established to provide services by and for the Gender Community. Open to all.

Services: Local support group serving Central California. Information, referrals, support and peer counseling. Gender and sex information; referrals for medical and professional support, personal care, correspondence and peer-linking. International contacts. Peer counselling by telephone and/or appointment. Donations and contributions are welcome and tax-deductible.

Security: Confidential and non-judgmental.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

EDUCATIONAL TV CHANNEL (ETVC): ETVC, P.O. Box 6486, San Francisco, CA 94101. Telzey Adams, Rep

Nature: ETVC is a delightful group of TVs, TSs, Significant Others, and friends. It is intended as a social and educational group, to meet and to have a good time as well as educate the public. ETVC is non-sexual, and has an open membership policy with over 400 members.

Services: ETVC publishes the ETVC Newsletter, and provides a program of social and educational programs, and referrals.

Security: The mailing and membership lists are confidential. Only the officers are permitted access to these lists, except in the case of judicial process. No member shall reveal the true name, address, telephone number, or profession of another member to anyone, except with the other members' express permission.

SIGNIFICANT OTHERS SUPPORT: SOS, c/o ETVC, Box 6486, San Francisco, CA 94101.

Nature: Affiliated with ETVC. An educational and support organization for the "significant others" of crossdressers and transsexuals.

Services: Meetings and a newsletter.

Security: See ETVC.

GENDER MINORITY PROGRAM: Gender Minority Program, P.O. Box 4447, San Francisco, CA 94101 (415) 558-8058 Joni A. Israel, Director

Nature: Consultation for individuals, groups, and clinicians.

Services: The GMP provides individual and group consultation to gender minority individuals. We serve transsexuals, transvestites, and other sexual minorities. We also serve as a resource for clinical consultation for the professional community.

TENDERLOIN SELF-HELP CENTER: 191 Golden Gate Ave, San Francisco, CA 94102 (415) 554-0518. Christine Tayleur, Rep

Nature: We are an innovative and non-traditional mental health program. We are a project of Central City Hospitality House.

Services: Training in peer counselling, support group facilitation, job training. We offer peer counselling, TV/TS support groups, A.A., shelter referrals and emergency medical care referrals, and other basic survival needs. We serve the 'Tenderloin' and 'South Of Market' communities of San Francisco.

GENDER IDENTITY ANONYMOUS: No mailing address available.

Nature: A non-judgmental transgender support group.

Services: Meetings every Thursday in the Science of Mind room at 3255 Balboa Street (near 34th Avenue), San Francisco.

FEMALE-TO-MALE: F_2M, 1827 Haight Street #164, San Francisco, CA 94117; 415-626-5824, ask for Lou.

Nature: Support group exclusively for female-to-male crossdressers, TSs, and their significant others.

Services: Inquire.

Security: Inquire.

THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY: SFBAGLHS, Box 42126, San Francisco, CA 94142.

Nature: Reference library for lesbian, gay, and transgendered persons.

Services: Large periodical collection of Bay Area and California titles preserved for research.

HARRY BENJAMIN INTERNATIONAL GENDER DYSPHORIA ASSOCIATION: HBIGDA, 900 Welch Road #402, Stanford, CA 94304.

Nature: A non-profit professional group with special interest in gender dysphoria syndrome.

THE PACIFIC CENTER FOR HUMAN GROWTH: Box 908, Berkeley, CA 94701; 415-548-8283. Hot Line: 415-841-6224. Allyana Guenther, Executive Director.

Nature: A private, non-profit agency funded by the United Way, county revenue sharing funds, sliding scale fees, and contributions. The Center is dedicated to providing high-quality services to sexual minorities of all ages, races, and backgrounds.

Services: Educational services and outreach to the community at large. Speaker's Bureau, counseling, and group meetings.

GENDER-NET: Oakland, CA 415-763-5163. (Number reported to be invalid 10/88)

Nature: Computer Bulletin Board Service. 300/1200 baud, 8N1.

Services: Two bulletin board sections, public and private. The private section is available to subscribers only. The oldest continuously run BBS dedicated to the TV/TS.

THURSDAY IRREGULARS: Joan Sheldon, Box 7205, San Jose', CA 75150-7205.

Nature: For nearly 7 years a group of TVs and their friends have met every Thursday for lunch. An informal discussion group and meeting of good friends. Participants come as their "male" selves.

Security: The group is very security conscious, so inquire about requirements.

RAINBOW GENDER ASSOCIATION: Box 700730, San Jose', CA 95170. Rebecca Redsing, Rep

Nature: Formerly San Jose' Chapter, GGA. Non-profit, non-sexual social/support group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their significant others regardless of their gender or sexual orientation.

Services: Our objective is to provide a safe and welcome place for male-to-female and female-to-male transsexuals, transvestites, and their significant others to get together with like-minded individuals. Attendance at all RGA functions is open to all regardless of gender. We also promote the complete development of RGA members as complete men and women through emotional support and education. We reach out to all transsexuals and transvestite in an effort to help them accept and make peace with themselves. We publish a newsletter and sponsor social programs, peer support, outreach work, and public education. Visitors are welcome.

FEMINET:

Nature: Electronic bulletin board serving the gender community. Specialty: General resource for all TVs, TSs, and all other persons interested in transgendered lifestyles. Largest BBS devoted to gender issues.

Services: Baudrates: 300/1200/2400 (8 bit, no parity, one stop bit). Software: QuickGGS 2.03 (highly modified). Access: Answer all new-login questions and you will be logged onto Digicomputronica, a public "front" for Feminet. Enter "P" (for password). Password is "KEY" (without quotes). Hours: 24 hours. Financed by contributions.

SOCIETY OF JANUS - SACRAMENTO GROUP: c/o Box 13852, Sacramento, CA 95838-3582. Tara Tenille, Rep

Nature: JANUS provides a forum on the erotic arts of S/M, dominance/submission (D/S), and bondage and discipline (B/D) in a supported and unloaded atmosphere. This is where people can share practical information and ideas, feelings, health and safety information, etc. JANUS offers education to the general public about the S/M community and to the S/M community about itself. All activities must be safe, sane, and consensual.

Services: Monthly program meetings feature guest speakers and general rap sessions. Member involvement is a vital part of the success of this group.

Security: All membership lists and mailings are kept in strictest confidence.

SACRAMENTO GENDER ASSOCIATION (Blue Rose Chapter): SGA, c/o Jennifer Richards, Box 417701, Sacramento, CA 95841. 916-362-8131 (9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. PST only. Ask for Stephanie)

Nature: SGA ia a non-sexual organization open to all TVs, TGs, TSs, Significant Others, and any other friends who will respect each person's right to self-expression. SGA ia an educational, social, and support group.

Services: Monthly 7:00 PM meetings on the fourth Saturday of each month at Joseph's Town & Country Inn, 2060 Auburn Blvd, Sacramento. There may be a guest speaker, rap session, or a general "get-acquainted" theme. SGA publishes a bi-monthly newsletter.

Security: All mailing and membership lists are kept confidential. Only certain officers have access.

(GROUPS FORMING: Tri-Ess, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275)

Sacramento area: Kay CA-1542-M

San Jose area: Rose Ann CA-1074-C

HAWAII - OREGON WASHINGTON - ALASKA

SEXUAL IDENTITY CENTER: Box 3224, Honolulu, HI 96801-3224; 808-926-1000.

Services: Therapists, referrals, special support group for TVs and TSs.

NORTHWEST GENDER ALLIANCE: NWGA, Box 4928, Portland, OR 97208. Ellen Summers, Rep

Nature: A non-profit, non-sexual social organization serving the crossdressing community.

Services: The Northwest Chapter has at least one function a month. The days vary in order to enable all of our girls to attend as often as possible. We also publish a monthly newsletter.

Security: Private interview with the chapter president.

SALMACIS: The Equalitarian Feminist Social Society, Box 1604, Eugene, OR 97440-1604. Sally Ann Douglas, Social Director; Leslie-Shawn Witham, hypnotherapist; 502-688-4282 (Sally Ann, 6-11 PM PST). Sally Ann Douglas, Rep

Nature: Salmacis is a social and service society devoted to the concept of feminism, supporting all those who are or desire to become women.

Services: Direct telephone counseling, contact with others with similar interests, contact with our central organization and other organizations, and personal growth workshops. Also publish Femmes Together and The Equalitarian Feminist. The Salmacis Social Society meets the 3rd Monday of every month, 8PM at the Riv, 39 W. 10th St., Eugene, OR.

SALISHON, The Womyn's Information Network: Box 1604, Eugene, OR 97440-1604; Leslie-Shawn Witham, Director.

Nature: A service and information network for womyn who perceive themselves living an alternative lifestyle.

Services: The only femininity clinic for males and she-males that is run by a staff of professional women.

EMERALD CITY: Box 31318, Seattle, WA 98103. Janice Van Cleve, Secretary. Janice Van Cleve, Rep

Nature: The Emerald City is a non-profit, non-sexual organization providing social and educational services for the transvestite community of Seattle and the Northwest. Promotes positive public image in the media, in the professions, and in the business community. Provides assistance and opportunities for public presentation as well as private parties and good friendships. An independent organization, but works closely with the Ingersoll Gender Center and the Seattle Counselling Service.

Services: At least three functions each month with variety to accommodate most tastes and budgets. Constantly updated listing of acceptable vendors and contacts to a wide variety of products and services. Monthly newsletter and educational services.

Security: Must be sponsored by an active, participating member or attend the TV/TS Support Group at the Seattle Counselling Service and be accepted by an Emerald City officer. Mailing lists are strictly confidential.

THE INGERSOLL GENDER CENTER: 1812 East Madison, Seattle, WA 98122 (206) 329-6651 Marcia Botzer, Executive Director

Nature: Ingersoll Gender Center is a non-profit counselling and referral service serving the transsexual community throughout the Northwest. It is managed by a professional board and has 8 experienced, licensed therapists with advanced degrees on contract. Ingersoll works closely with the Emerald City and Seattle Counseling Service.

Services: Individual and group counseling, professional consultation to service providers, referrals, research, and public information presentation. Weekly support meetings, public information presentations, research, and informational materials upon request.

SEATTLE COUNSELLING SERVICE: 1505 Broadway, Seattle, WA 98122; 206-329-8707 noon to 9 pm weekdays Michael Auch, Executive Director

Nature: Seattle Counseling Service is the oldest counseling service for sexual minorities in the U.S. A United Way agency, SCS receives grants from state and local sources to provide counseling and therapy for the full range of problems related to sexual issues.

Services: SCS provides a weekly support group for TVs, TSs, significant others, in-betweens, and I-don't-knows every Friday from 8 to 10 pm. Facilities for dressing on-site. Also provides crisis line.

THE BERDACHE SOCIETY: c/o Kyndel Fay Mercedes, Box 113162, Anchorage, AK 99511. Nora Jean York, Co-founder Kyndel Fay Mercedes, Rep.

Nature: A non-profit, non-sexual, social, educational, and referral organization serving the TV/TS community. Supports the concept that gender and sexual identity operate on separate but parallel continuum with unity of the individual and freedom of expression and growth our pri-

mary focus. (Sumus Quod Sumas)

Services: Publishes a monthly newsletter "Satin and Lace". Monthly meetings and social functions in a safe and supportive environment. Educational and personal growth programs. Wives and significant others support group. Mental health and medical referrals.

Security: All guests and members are expected to conduct themselves in a mature, responsible, and respectful manner. Membership is by committee after interview by chairperson or letter of referral. Anyone may receive the newsletter.

(GROUPS FORMING: Tri-Ess, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275)
Eugene OR area: Debra Kim OR-1731-K

CANADA

QUEBEC TRANSSEXUALS AID, INC.: ATQ, Inc., Viviane Belanger, 84 Boul. des Allies, Quebec, Canada G1L 1Y2 418-648-1633.

Nature: French speaking transsexual support.

Services: Meetings, medical referrals, and related services.

FACT - QUEBEC: c/o Mrs. Patricia Fisher, Box 293, Cote de Neiges Post Office, 5858 Cote de Neiges Boulevard, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3S 2S6. Mrs. Patricia Fisher, Rep

Nature: Closely affiliated with FACT - Ontario. A non-profit support organization for transsexuals, their relatives and friends, professionals and para-professionals working in the field of gender dysphoria, and others prepared to support the aims of the Foundation.

Services: Information distribution concerning transsexualism. Offers peer support and peer counseling. Organizes support groups across Canada wherever these are feasible and has area representatives wherever possible. Provides speakers on transsexualism to the mass media and others.

Security: Inquire.

FACTT - OTTAWA: Box 9155, Ottawa, ON, Canada K1G 3T9.

Nature: Support group primarily for transsexuals.

Services: Meetings monthly on the 3rd Saturday of each month.

Security: Contact FACTT president through the Ottawa Gayline (613) 238-1717. Arrange a time for a callback.

GENDER WORKER SERVICES: Rupert Raj, BA (Psych.), P.R., Box 1224, Station A, Toronto, Ontario, M5W 1G7, Canada ; 416-769-7170.

Nature: A professional registered service serving a transgender clientele. Clients include both those suffering from gender dysphoria and persons who have resolved their gender issues, but require assistance with related matters.

Services: Mr. Raj provides information, referrals, counseling, group raps, intermediation between clients and significant others, presentations, seminars, workshops, peer-linking, media outreach, resume' assistance, leadership training, and networking. Services may be conducted through office visits or correspondence; fees normally $20.00 per hour or $25.00 per letter.

ONTARIO TV CLUB: c/o Deb Pyke, Box 682, Owen Sound, Ontario, Canada N4K 5P1

Nature: A non-profit, non-sexual social organization serving TVs, TSs, their spouses, and friends.

Services: Private and public functions, a correspondence and peer linking service for members, and a club newsletter.

Security: By member referral or interview with a member of the board.

GENDERSERVE: Box 291 Station "A", Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8N 3C8. Susan C. Huxford, Director.

Nature: Counselling, education, and research services. Registered in Ontario as a proprietorship. Operating as a non-profit organization serving TVs, TSs, and gender dysphoric people in general, homosexual people, wives, friends, and relatives. Services for a nominal fee to cover expenses. Inquiries by mail or phone. No collect calls.

Services: Counselling in sexual matters for individuals and couples. Pastoral counselling if requested. Referrals. Initial counselling session (mail or phone) free of charge. Lectures, radio/television and other mass media interviews by arrangement. Group counselling and therapy by request.

TRANSITION SUPPORT: c/o The Church Street Community Centre, 519 Church Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4Y 2C9. Micheline Johnson, Rep

Nature: Transsexual support.

Services: Annual membership fee ($25.00 cdn) includes monthly meetings and 12-issue sub to Trans News newsletter. Newsletter subscription alone, $15.00. Meetings held at 7:30 PM on the second Friday of each month. Meetings are open to TVs, TSs, TGs, SOs, helping professionals, and interested, caring members of the general public.

Security: None; inquire for details.

GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC: c/o Dr. Betty Steiner, Clarke Institute of Psychiatry, 250 College Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5T 1R8.

Nature: Accepts referrals through the patient's General Practitioner only.

NU OMICRON PHI - TRI ESS: Nu Omicron Phi, P.O. Box 7421, Vanier, Ontario, Canada K1K 8E4

Nature: Social support for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services/Security: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA

THE TRANSIE TIMES: T.T.T., 566 Parliament St, Toronto, ON M4X 1P8 Canada

Nature: A monthly tabloid dedicated to transvestites and their followers.

MONARCH SOCIAL CLUB: M.S.C., P.O. Box 1258, Stn A, Hamilton, ON L8N 4B4 Canada

Nature: Social club for TVs, TSs, SOs.

Services: Inquire

Security: Inquire

PHI SIGMA - TRI ESS: c/o Sara Geddis, Box 2546, Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada T1A 8G8.

Nature: Social support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: See "Society for the Second Self", Tulare, CA

Security: Inquire

CANADA-WIDE TV & TS CONTACT CLUB: TV/TS Club, P.O. Box 4667, Stn. "C", Calgary, ALB T2T 5P1 CANADA

Nature: Club for TVs, TSs, and their admirers.

Services: Information, support, counselling, contacts. Publishes "TV Guys".

Security: Inquire

CORNBURY SOCIETY: Combury Society, Box 3745, Vancouver, BC V6B 3Z1 CANADA

Nature: Non-sexual support group for heterosexual crossdressers.

Services/Security: Inquire for meeting times and locations, and security requirements.

(GROUPS FORMING: Tri-Ess, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275)
Montreal/Quebec City area: Yvette FCPQ-2168-D
British Columbia area: Dana FCBC-1929-H

GREAT BRITAIN

BEAUMONT SOCIETY: Box 3084, London WC1N-3XX England.

Nature: Beaumont is a non-profit, non-sexual organization for heterosexual transvestites throughout Great Britain.

Services: Evening and weekend functions, counselling for TVs with problems, and a contact system for members. Two bi-monthly magazines: The Beaumont Bulletin, which contains editorial notices, personal ads, a shopping guide, regional news, and articles on related matters; also Beaumag, which contains fictional, biographical, and autobiographical stories. Beaumont provides a library, legal advice, and a liaison and referral service to other organizations. Beaumont has a network of organizations throughout Great Britain, and affiliations worldwide.

Security: Private interview with a qualified member.

TV/TS SUPPORT GROUP: The TV/TS Group, 2/4 French Place, London England E1 6JB (off Bateman's Row); 01-359-4868. Hours: 8-10 PM Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Nature: The TV/TS Group is a Registered Charity and a member of the NCVO (National Council of Volunteer Organizations). Primarily a social/support organization for crossdressers, transsexuals, families, and friends.

Services: Private facilities with comfortable lounges, storage lockers, social areas, and other attractive features. Friendly, informal social evenings every Saturday and Sunday. There is a help line at 01-729-1466. Its hours are 10:30 AM - 4:30 PM Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 2:30 - 4:30 PM on Friday, and 8:00 - 10:00 PM Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. 24 hour answering machines and information also at this number. Peer

support for crossdressers, transsexuals, and significant others. Publish the Glad Rag and other informational publications.

Security: Inquire.

THE GENDER DYSPHORIA TRUST (Formerly SHAFT): The Gender Dysphoria Trust, B.M. Box No. 7624, London WC1N 3XX ENGLAND

Nature: Transsexual support.

NEW TRANS ESSEX: Box 3, Basildon, Essex, England SS14 1PT; 0255-554158 evenings 7:30 - 11:00 PM.

Nature: TV/TS social club.

Services: Meetings 2nd Friday of every month at the Kavorah Manor. There is a Club newsletter ("Narcissus") and a help line.

Security: Inquire

MERSEYSIDE TV/TS GROUP: 14 Colquitt Street, Liverpool, England L1 4DE; 051-708-0234. D. S. Cochran, secretary.

Nature: See "Beaumont society".

THE SCOTTISH TV/TS GROUP: c/o Julie Bradshaw, 53 Bread Street, Edinburgh EH3 9AH. Tel. 031 - 228-2231. Jamie McCloskey, Rep

Nature: TV/TS Support Group.

Services: Publish The Tartan Skirt, a monthly collection of original articles and gleanings from the media.

Security: Unknown at press time.

GENDER TRANSIENT AFFINITY (Isle of Wight): GTA, c/o Miss Phaedra Kelley, Box 2, 1 Bank Buildings, Freshwater, Isle of Wight, P040 9AJ, UK of GB. JoAnn Roberts, Rep

Nature: A non-profit organization dedicated to helping any transgendered person in any way possible.

Services: A network of friends communicating by mail. A "Global Village" project which is a collection of groups and organizations from around the world. Designed to "cement the bond of mutual respect and affinity among us", publishing news from around the world, travel routes between countries, etc. There is a museum and library.

THE NORTHERN CONCORD: The Northern Concord (in Manchester), c/o 122 Navigation Rd, Northwich, Cheshire, CW8 1BE ENGLAND Jenny Baker, Rep

Nature: A non-profit social and support group for transvestites, transsexuals, their wives and significant others. Associated with the Beaumont Society, and the TV/TS Support Group.

Services: Meetings at a Bistro in Manchester city every Wednesday night from 7:00 - 12:00. Publishes a quarterly magazine "Cross Talk".

Security: Inquire

TRANSGENDER ARCHIVE: TGA, c/o Dr. Richard Akins, Ulster University, Magee College, Northland Road, Londonderry BT48 7JL, Northern Ireland.

Nature: A non-profit academic research and study facility.

Services: Seeking both group and personal deposits related to every kind of Transgender regardless of sexuality or self designation of gender identity: TV/TS/TG/GT/CD, Gender Bender/Blender, Drag (all kinds), Newspaper cuttings, magazines, group journals, photos, sound and video tapes, records, artifacts of history and living history. Publishes "Archive News" a newsletter and news agency with three purposes: (1) To provide news for transgender groups and publications, (2) To inform the transgender community of the progress of the Archive, and (3) To help the Archive improve its deposits.

Security: One hundred percent, closed deposits accepted as noted by the depositor. Access to research material by direct application to Dr. Akins, granted subject to his decision. Access to deposits is only granted on permission by the original depositor and Dr. Akins after a full security consultation.

BELFAST TV/TS GROUP: Cara, Friend, P.O. Box 44, Belfast BT1 1SH IRELAND

Nature: Social support group for TVs, TSs, friends.

Services: Meetings in Belfast on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

Security: Inquire

EUROPE

TRANS-CCL: Reverend Joseph Douce', Centre du Christ Liberateur, Minorities Sexuelles, TRANS-CCL, 3 Bis, Rue Clairaut, 75017, Paris-France; Tel. (1)46.27.49.36. (Reverend Douce' speaks English.)

Nature: TRANS-CCL is a non-profit social organization for sexual minorities. It is non-political and with a Christian foundation, but is also open to people with other convictions.

Services: A help-line Mondays from 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM at 1-627-4936. We have a large contact section (about 500 entries; probably the largest one in Europe) of contacts for transvestites and transsexuals. We can provide legal, psychological, pastoral, and surgical help, advisors, and literature for transsexuals. We organize meetings, meals, and other related events. We have a large documentation section on transsexuality. We can also provide all information available in Europe. We publish the book, La Question Transsexualle, exploring attitudes and procedures regarding transsexualism in the various European countries. (English translation not yet complete; French language edition currently in print; price 133.5 francs total.)

KONTAKTFORUM FEMME TRAVESTIE: 8023 Zurich, Switzerland Postfach 6788.

Nature: Very active social group in Switzerland. Other details are unavailable at this time.

F.P.E. NORTHERN EUROPE: M.A. Postboks 192 DK2600, Glostrup, Denmark. (Do not put F.P.E. on the envelope.)

Nature: See "Beaumont Society" in the England listings.

ASSOCIATION BEAUMONT CONTINENTALE: Gaby Linsig, 2 Rue des Charpentiers, 68270 Wittenheim, France.

Nature: See "Beaumont Society" in the England listings.

TRANSIDENTITAS: Transidentitas, Menschen Mit Abweichender Geschlects Identitat, Postfach 10 10 46, 6050 Offenbach GERMANY Phone: 069 8001008

Nature: Support group for transvestites and transsexuals.

Services: Inquire

TV CLUB HAMBURG: Postfach 26 14 26, 2000 Hamburg 26 GERMANY Phone: 040.250.13.13 (Christel Grunwald)

Nature: Inquire

Services: Inquire

F.P.E. (Northern Europe): Turid Vang, Postboks 1968, N 0125 Oslo, NORWAY

Nature: "Beaumont Society"

F.P.E. (Northern Europe): Anette Hall, Box 728, S 101 30 Stockholm, SWEDEN

Nature: "Beaumont Society"

ASIA

ELIZABETH CLUB: Tsutsui building 5F 2-8-4, Suada-Cho, Kanda, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101, Japan.

Nature: The Elizabeth Club was established in 1979 for transsexuals, androgynes, and transgenderists. We are located in major centers such as Tokyo, Osaka, and Nagoya.

Services: We offer storage facilities for our members. We also have consultants available for helping members with make-up and dressing. There is a rental service of clothing, wigs, and other related items for members. The Club (through Ant Trading Co., listed below) also publishes a magazine called "Queen" every other month. This magazine serves as a source of information to members on activities and events in Japan.

ANT TRADING COMPANY: Ant Building 2F 5-32-18 Kameido, Koto-ku, Tokyo 136, Japan

Nature: Publisher of "Queen" Magazine, Japan's premier cross-dresser's reference guide. Single-copy and subscription prices unknown at press time.

AUSTRALIA - NEW ZEALAND

THE SEAHORSE SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES - SYDNEY: The Secretary, Box 146, Ulladulla, New South Wales 2538, Australia..

Nature: The Seahorse Society is a non-profit social organization for transvestites and families. The Society is a member in good standing of the Association of Self-Help Organizations and Groups, 39 Darghan Street, Glebe 2037, N.S.W., Australia. Seahorse welcomes new members and overseas visitors, offering support to those of us unable to emerge by means of affiliate membership.

Services: Seahorse distributes information on shopping, coming events, and being femme through a monthly newsletter to members. Meetings provide friendship, beauty assistance, and help with related matters.

Security: Seahorse places strong emphasis on security for all members and requires screening of prospective members before attend-

ing meetings. However, no screening is required of affiliate members (who are not advised of meeting places) unless they wish to become full members. Overseas members are screened in the same way; overseas visitors must either be screened or have accreditation from a similar (Beaumont, Tiffany, etc.) organization.

SEAHORSE SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND: Box 628, Gympie, Queensland, Australia. Complete details of activities not yet available. Jayne Halstaad, Rep

THE SEAHORSE SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES - GLEBE: c/o Bernadette Cross, Box 168, Westgate, N.S.W., 2048.

Nature: See Seahorse - Sydney, above.

Services: Likewise refer to Seahorse - Sydney.

Security: Inquire.

THE SEAHORSE SOCIETY OF VICTORIA: SSV, c/o GPO Box 2337V, Melbourne, VICTORIA, Australia. Jan Baxter, President.

Nature: The largest continuously active club in Australia. A non-profit, non-sexual social/support organization for crossdressers and their families.

Services: SSV regularly publishes the Seahorse Victoria newsletter. We sponsor social activities, outings, and related events.

Security: Inquire.

CAROUSEL CLUB: c/o Linda Allen, Box 721, Couandilla, South Australia 5033

Nature: A new group dedicated to the welfare of others like ourselves.

Services: Unknown at press time.

Security: Unknown at press time.

THE ELAINE BARRIE PROJECT: EBP, Box 405, Altona, Victoria 3018, Australia; tele 369-2613.

Nature: A non-profit self-help group for TVs and TSs. Self-funding and self-supporting.

Services: Regular monthly social meetings and education projects throughout the year. A large reading and video sex education library with emphasis on genuine TV- and TS-related issues. Guest speakers. Publish the Nu-Scene newsletter.

Security: Almost anyone over the age of 18 (TV, TS, helping professional, families, friends, and significant others) is welcome. One factor takes precedence over all others: that the visitor or member behaves in a civilized manner and bears us no ill will.

HEDESTHIA: Hedesthia Central, Box 78-026, Grey Lynn, Auckland, New Zealand.

Nature: Affiliated with the Beaumont Society.

THE MINORITIES TRUST & TRANSCARE / NEW ZEALAND: c/o The Minorities Trust, Box 2983, Wellington, NZ. Telephone: Wgtn (04) 844-764; ChCh (03) 294 764. Miss Leone Jeanne Neil, Rep.

Nature: A low profile, high powered lobby group promoting the rights of transpeople. A confidential, culturally divergent community support group helping meet the social and emotional needs of Transpeople.

Services: Personal counselling, employment opportunities, professional and medical referrals, periodical publications, and a non-threatening social environment for functions and entertainment.

Security: Call or write and enquire.

SOUTH AFRICA

THE PHOENIX SOCIETY: Box 375, Parow, 7500, Cape Town, Republic of South Africa. Marlene Knoetze, President. Sandra Beauchamp, Rep

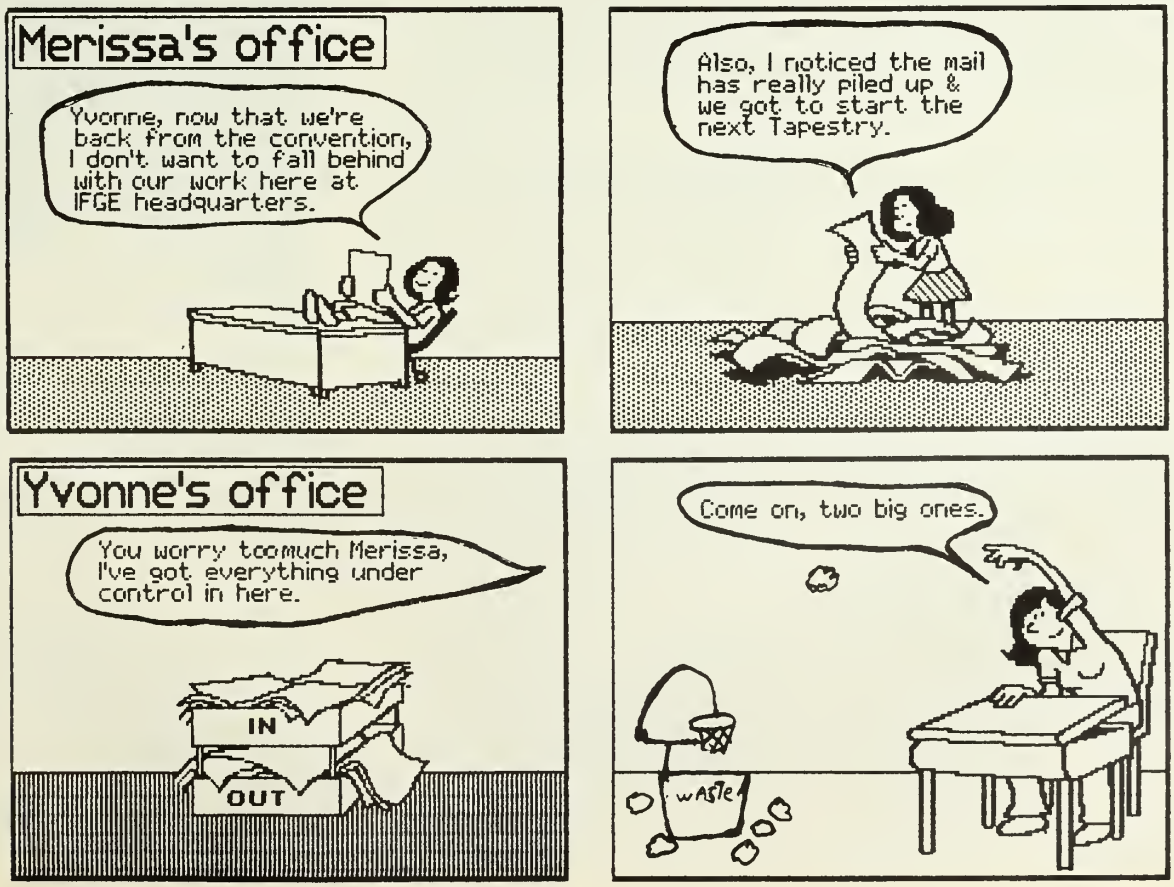
Nature: Affiliated with the Beaumont Society. The Phoenix Society is a non-profit, non-sexual social organization with an open membership policy.

Services: Publishes Fanfare magazine, actively trying to change attitudes in South Africa. Creating support groups in all major cities. Provides contacts.

Security: New members are "sponsored" by full members. All lists are confidential.

Behind the scene look at IFGE

by Linda



PERSONAL LISTINGS

PERSONAL LISTINGS OBJECTIVES:

1.) To provide a means of introduction, outreach, and communications for members of the International Foundation for Gender Education. (General Subscribers and Supporting Members are considered members of I.F.G.E.)
2.) To provide non-members with a source of support and communications.
3.) To provide the general public with a better understanding of the nature of the people who are members and supporters of the Crossdressing/Transsexual Community.

WHO MAY PLACE A PERSONAL LISTING:

To place a personal listing you must be an up-to-date General Subscriber (or IFGE Supporting Member). (Please see the subscription form at the back of the Personal Listings.) As a subscriber your personal listing is free of charge for the duration of your subscription. Also, your mail will be forwarded at no cost to you.

HOW TO RESPOND TO A PERSONAL LISTING:

1.) If the address is given in the personal listing, write directly to that address.
2.) If there is no address given, follow these instructions exactly:
   (A) Place your letter in an unstamped envelope.
   (B) Pencil in the name, state prefix, and membership number (given at the bottom of the listing). (Be sure to use pencil so the name can be erased.)
   (C) Include $1.00 (for postage and handling) for each piece to be forwarded.
   (D) Place the letters to be forwarded inside another envelope, and mail to: TAPESTRY, P.O. BOX 367, WAYLAND, MA 01778

MASSACHUSETTS

AUDREY M (E MA) (#54)
Member: Tiffany Club
MWM bi-TV, 53, 155, 5'10", nice, intelligent, well adjusted, sense of humor. Enjoys current events, music, sailing, photography, woodworking. Would like to have a few TV friends for casual get-togethers; freedom limited to weekdays 9-6.
Neil Moses, Box 66, Allston, MA 02134

Chris Robins (MA-1354)

CHRIS ROBINS (E MA) (#54)
Member: Tiffany, Administrative Assistant, Outreach Institute
Participant: Fantasia Fair '87, '88
TV, passes well. Goes out frequently. Interested in psychological aspects of crossdressing, feminism, and androgyny. "I try to express my feminine qualities regardless of how I am dressed. I'd like to provide support to TVs/TSs who feel confused or guilty."
Chris Robins, Box 562, Cambridge, MA 02238

CYNTHIA CRANE (SE MA) (#53)
MWM hetero crossdresser, 40, 6', sensitive and discrete. Interests: Computers, telecommunications, video tape, music, TV fantasies & bondage, tight clothing, correspondence with others of like interests. "I love being dressed in nylon, satin, and leather. I would like to exchange books, fantasies, and thoughts about enforced crossdressing."
Cynthia Crane (MA-0843)

VALERIE VINCENT (BOS MA) (#52)

5 feet 10", 150, beautiful dressed, like to meet women who will go shopping with me and have a girl-girl relationship. Will be available for photo sessions. Can have fun shopping, talking, going to lunch. Just being best girlfriends. Told I make a very, feminine, convincing woman. Am well known in TV circles. Wear Nail 1 1/2 inches long. Have 2 picture albums, Centerfold in worldwide TV periodical.

Occupant, Box 8341, JFK Station, Boston, MA 02114

SUSAN A. (SE MA) (#52)

MWM TV, 30's, 5'7", 140.

Interests: Collecting and wearing all kinds of lingerie, TV literature. Would like to meet others with similar interests. "I've been kind of away from the TV scene for a while, but am hoping to get active again soon.

Susan A. (MA-0064)

VALERIE PAULSEN (E MA) (51)

Member: Tiffany Club

Awards: FF Ms Cinderella '85

DWM, 43, 5'11", 140. I'm part TV, TG, and TS, in that order. I have been working full time as a woman since Sept '88, but I still spend more than half my weekends as a male. I would like to meet or correspond with others who are working as women. I also want to meet females who prefer she-males to macho males. My interests include laser shows (for fun and profit) and occasional night life. Non-smoker.

Valerie Paulsen, P.O. Box 259, Watertown, MA 02172

"Gita" R. (MA-1815)

MARGARITA ("GITA") AMANDA R. (E. MA) (#52)

Member: Tiffany

Participant: Be-All, Detroit, 1988

DWM, 50's, 5'11", 185, young looking and thinking, run-off-at-the-mouth conversationalist, yet a good listener. Introspective, interested in everything, especially geography and history, science and photography, classical music, camping and hiking, cooking, gardening and canning (500 tomatoes in '87), dancing, softball, pretty and lacy feminine attire, and PEOPLE. While celibate, I love to HUG. Live alone on north shore of MA. PLEASE WRITE! All letters will be answered.

Margarita R. (MA-1815)

CHRISTINE POKORSKY (MA) (#53)

Member: Tiffany

Do not get opportunity to go out often dressed. Would like to correspond with other TVs and understanding GGs.

Christine P. (MA-1972)

Holly Cross (MA-0379)

HOLLY CROSS (MA) (#51)

IFGE Board of Directors, IFGE Staff

Member: Tiffany

Participant: Tiffany P-town Outing, IFGE Convention, Shangri-La, Joyce Dewhurst's Poconos Outing

SWM TV, mid-60's. Lives alone except for a lot of VHF ham gear and about 200 size 20 outfits. Is fairly active, goes to many concerts dressed, and has been to over 15 outings. Looks like a proper Boston lady, and is having a 'hell' of a good time. "I try to answer all the interesting letters, but no guarantee."

Holly C., c/o Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778

MICHELLE H. (MA) (#51)

Attractive GWM TV/TS, 30, 5'9", 150#, passes easily and loves to be feminine. Would like to hear from other girls interested in fashion, quiet talks, movies, shopping, etc. "I'm very sincere and caring and will answer all replies. Thanks."

Michelle H. (MA-0576)

GAYLE W. (MA) (#52)

MWM, 40, 5'8", size 14, quiet, friendly, and active. Enjoy cooking, antiques, shopping and going out to dinner & theater. Like to swim and entertain. "I prefer the feminine side of my personality and enjoy being a woman without guilt, I would like to help others do the same.

Gayle W. (MA-0243)

Rise C. (MA-1412)

RISE CARMEN (E. MA) (#51)

MWM, 6', 57, and self-conscious about being overweight. Closet TV. Interests: Basie, Kenton, Miller, Dorsie, Mr. B. and Sarah, dancing and girl talk. Just emerging; need help on selecting wardrobe and other things. Wife objects, so I have problems. Will answer all.

Occupant, Box 13, Essex, MA 01929

DIANA E. MARSHALL (MA) (#51)

Member: Tiffany

SWM TV, 40, 5'6", 125, loves all things feminine.

Interests: Music and stereo equipment, photography, acrylic and oil painting. "I would like to go out more as a woman. Would like to meet new friends, and attend Tiffany functions."

Diana M. (MA-0886)

LILA WALTON (W. MA) (#54)

Naturally inclined this way I do pass well and enjoy being accepted. Interests: Contemporary theater, acting, poetry and poetry readings, folk music, Irish songs and ballads. "I love to be out among people in nice places, when I can do this. I like to talk a lot, and I listen."

L. Walton, 55 Commons Drive #36, Shrewsbury, MA 01545

SUE FANON (W. MA) (#52)

SWM TV, 32, 5'10", 160, brown eyes & hair, easy going, clean, understanding, loving & sincere. Interests: Dressing up & being feminine, lingerie, makeup, travel, & meeting new friends. "I am a novice TV who enjoys being feminine and would like to enjoy sincere friendships with fellow 'sisters'. I would like to correspond or meet a pre- or post-op transsexual."

Sue F. (MA-0983)

SUSAN ELIZABETH R. (MA) (#53)

SWM TV, 53, 6' 180, brown hair, hazel eyes. Interests: Photography, treasure hunting, 40's and 50's music, dogs, nature, and being a lady. "I would like to correspond with other girls in E. MAss., especially Metro-West area."

Susan Elizabeth R. (MA-0839)

MICHELLE C. (MA) (#52)

Bi MWM TV, 32, 175, 6'. Interests: Music, chardonnays, lingerie, quiet relaxed din-

ners. Looking to meet intelligent, sophisticated TV/TS's for friendships. Will answer all who send photos.

Michelle C., DLD Suite 572, 310 Franklin St, Boston, MA 02116

DIANE (MA) (#51)

MWM, married. Learning all I can about life. "I need to communicate with people who understand. Will someone please help? And show me courage?

Diane (MA-1776)

JAMIE LOREN (MA) (#52)

5'8", 145, green eyes, brown hair, attractive, perceptive, friendly, socially adjusted. Interests: Music, reading, socializing, friendship only, astrology, fashion, hair styling. "I am seeking people who are real about themselves and life's values. Not interested in sex or BS. Serious minded persons only."

Jamie Loren, P.O. Box 221, Dorchester, MA 02122-0002

RACHEL LYNN (MA) (#52)

5'9", 145, separated. At early stage of pre-op TS M-F. Live as Rachel, work as male. "Would like to meet other gals for friendship and sharing feminine interests, makeup, hormones, and sexy clothes. Looking for long-term friendships to help find myself."

Rachel Lynn, P.O. Box 293, N. Billerica, MA 01862

Elizabeth N. (MA-1728)

ELIZABETH ASHLEY NEAL (MA) (#52)

TV, 41, 6', brown hair, brown eyes. 41, non-smoker. Loves high heels. Would like to meet other TVs for dressing, shopping, going out, and friendship. Will answer all letters. Enclose photo if possible.

Elizabeth N. (MA-1728)

SUZANNE C. (MA) (#52)

Member: Tiffany

Work as a man but live at home as a woman. People tell me I'm attractive. I am always striving to improve my feminine thoughts, appearance, and mannerisms. I enjoy computers, cooking, fashion, entertaining as Suzie, ad just being me. Would like to correspond with others and make friends with sensible, discreet individuals.

Suzanne C. (MA-0295)

DOROTHY (MA) (#52)

Member: Tiffany Club

Participant: Fantasia Fair

SWM, CD, 5'11, 40. Athletic, great legs, works out. Enjoys biking, has supportive partner. Would like to meet other couples.

Dorothy (MA-1785)

Gloria R. (MA-1858)

GLORIA ROTHSCHILD (MA) (#53)

Single TV, 35, 5'9", 155, size 14, brunette. Caring, adjusted, fun-loving. Into personal growth, psychology, world affairs, technology, music/arts, massage, and nature. Love feeling like a woman. Recently out of the closet; would like to go out more, relate to others and maybe pass. Wish to meet others (sincere, secure TV/TS/GG/couple) for friendship, mutual support, and maybe outings.

G.R., Box 931, Cambridge, MA 02140

SHARON McGRATH (MA) (#52)

Member: Tiffany Club

Participant: Fantasia Fair, Tiffany outings

WM, 34, 5'6", 140, TV-TS. "I enjoy everything feminine; love going out dressed for shopping and travel. Would like to meet and correspond with others her age with same interests."

Ms. Sharon McGrath (MA-0504)

SANDRA SCOTT (MA) (#52)

Member: Tiffany

Participant: Tiffany Spring Convention

SWM TV, brown eyes and hair, trim figure. Enjoy skiing, bowling, crafts, and dancing. Wish to meet new people, make new friends, and learn to be as much a lady as possible.

Sandra Scott (MA-0544)

CRYSTAL RAYMOND (SE MA) (#53)

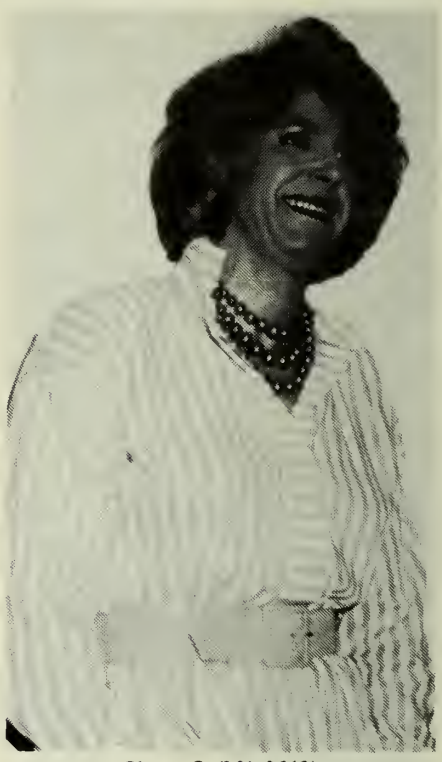
I would like to meet or correspond with other TVs/TSs in SE MA/Cape Cod area and desire to establish a cooperative home for sisters in our area. Fun-loving, caring individual, discreet, enjoys photography and writing (TV fantasies a specialty)

Crystal Raymond (MA-1923)

LISA (MA) (#54)

MWM, 33, 5'8". Lisa is willing to help others become happy too. "I have just started to realize that to be truly happy, I must accept that one is what one is. Would like to meet others at this stage of 'becoming'."

Lisa C. (MA-1956)



Christy S. (MA-0649)

CHRISTY SMITH (MA) (#54)

Member: Tiffany

MWM, 40, 5'11", 175, brown hair/eyes. "I love looking like a woman. I especially like working with wigs and makeup. Would love to meet/correspond with others with like interests. Photo gets prompt reply."

Christy Smith (MA-0649)

LAUREN D. (MA) (54)

5'10", 185, 30, married, hetero, monogamous CD with supportive wife. Enjoy most sports, camping, crossdressing, and improving my image. My wife and I wish to correspond and possibly meet with other CD couples in the North Shore area for friendship, understanding, and helping. Will answer all.

Lauren D. (MA-2047)

CHARLENE MANN (MA) (#54)

Member: Tiffany, IFGE Staff

Friendly, outgoing human service professional (MR/Prader-Willi) and software developer (blind/sight-impaired), living and working full-time in my chosen gender role. Compulsively constructive, with a generally accurate "feel" for what works and a good (tho' sometimes warped) sense of humor. Enjoy writing, bicycling, cooking, sewing, and time with friends. Would like to meet or correspond with other TSs (both directions) working in human services, both MH and MR. (I'm a slow but sure respondent.)

Charlene Mann, c/o Box 367, Wayland, MA 01778

CHRIS C. (NE MA) (52)

MWM, 47, 160, 5'11", hetero closet TV. Am only now finding out I'm not alone. Would like correspondence with others like myself. Taking first steps toward accepting and understanding being a TV.

E. Christie, P.O. Box 1354, Saugus, MA 01906

Kathy M. (MA-2038)

KATHY MASTERS (C MA) (54)

Late 30's, 70", para-medical (loves to help people). Loves balance between masculine and feminine lifestyle. Honest, secure and has perfect shoulders to cry on. Expert in shopping London TV shops. Corsets, maids costumes, elegant dresses are my passion. Seeks communication, meetings, and help from all.

Kathy M. (MA-2038)

DIANA JOYCE HOLMWOOD (E MA) (#53)

Was "cover girl" in 'Transvestia' many years back. Was very active when I lived in Buffalo, NY area. I'm 63, 5'8", 175, size 16, pierced ears, have taken hormones, have been a TV for 55 yrs, and I love it!! I have been so busy making a living that I have neglected my feminine self and I want to change that.

Diana Joyce H. (MA-1999)

ERIN ANNE O. (E. MA) (#54)

SWM TV, 23, 5'9", 165. Loves alternative music, friends, and all aspects of femininity, especially dressing. Would like to correspond with other TV/TS's. Send photos if possible. Discretion assured & required. Need help dressing.

Erin O. (MA-2094)

DONNA C. (W MA) (#54)

MWM hetero, 5'11", 180, 26. Crossdresser since teenager. I like feeling feminine. never been out, but would like to. Not sure about passing. Not good with makeup. Like to find a club in my area. Will respond ASAP.

D. Coan, P.O. Box 392, Granby, CT 06035

LES N. (E MA) (#54)

Post-op F-M, 30's. Looking for correspondence to make lasting friendships with other F-M TSs, and with GGs.

Les N., P.O. Box 123, Wakefield, MA 01880

NEW HAMPSHIRE - MAINE - VERMONT

Merissa L. (NH-0001)

MERISSA SHERRILL LYNN (NH)

Executive Director I.F.G.E., Editor In Chief TV/TS Tapestry, Director 'Coming Together' Convention

Awards: Dr. Prince 'Lifetime Contribution' award

Single, 47, 6', 200, BA philosophy, athletically oriented (pro skier 8 years), ACBL (bridge) Silver Life Master. A tomboy (Calamity Jane is my role model), and a caring person, sincerely interested in the well-being of others. Interests: Folk singing, bridge, skiing, the wilderness, and loving and free thinking people. "I'm sorry but I cannot respond to personal correspondence. However, I'm very interested in hearing from people who would like to become 'leaders', and are willing to put out some effort on behalf of our community. So, if you are a leader/worker-type person and willing to extend yourself to help others, write to me, or better, give me a call."

Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Box 367, Wayland MA 01778 (508) 358-2305 / (617) 894-8340

KERRI R. (NH) (#51)

DWM, Hetero, TV who has become comfortable with herself and wishes to reach out and further experience herself. Would like to make contact with others in the NH/VT area. Enjoy many outdoor activities. Spend part of most days as my second self and wish to learn more about transgender passage. Not a great correspondent but will try to answer quickly.

Kerri R. (NH-1095)

Anne Marie (NH-0844)

ANNE MARIE (NH) (#53)

Member: Tri-Ess

78 yr-old retired physician, married. A life-long crossdresser. At present, thanks to a loving and forbearing wife, dress most of the time at home. Enjoying the privacy of rural life.

Anne Marie (NH-0844)

Carolanne D. (NH-0890)

CAROLANN E. DURETTE (NH) (#51)

Bi M-F TG/TS, 40 (looks 30), 5'9", size 18, blue eyes, fair complexion, feminized body, long silver-blonde frosted hair. I'm looking for a long term relationship with a good looking guy who likes being a lady. Also interested in being a "big sister" to a "sister" roommate. Willing to relocate. I am legally female with complete female ID.

Carolann E. Durette, 455 Pine St., Manchester, NH 03104

JOAN B. (VT) (#51)

I would like to correspond with M-F TSs, transgenderists, and genetic women. I also need the address of the NH Gender Identity Clinic (or closest equivalent facility) ASAP.

Joan B. (VT-1843)

MICHELLE RENEE St. LAURENT (NH) (#53)

Member: Tiffany Club

DWM, 35, 5'10", 180, growing my own permed hair so I don't have to wear a wig. I am

becoming more passable with time and practice, and find myself gaining confidence with my femininity. I am looking for other TVs or TSs in the central NH area for friendship and support. We can all use a friend now and then.

Michelle Renee St. Laurent, 26 S. Main St #230, Concord, NH 03301

Monica W. (NH-1528)

MONICA WHITNEY (S. NH) (#51)

Member: Tiffany

SWM, Bi TV, 26, 6', 165. Interests: Music, movies, dancing, dining out and dressing up when I can. "I'm just coming out of closet, and would love to meet other TVs & TSs and understanding women for fun and friendship."

Monica W. (NH-1528)

Lee A. (ME-0247)

LEE A. (ME) (#52)

MWM closet TV, 5'10", brown hair, good personality. Enjoys dressing and being as feminine as possible. Would like to meet and/or correspond with others. Spends winters in Myrtle Beach, SC. Would love to meet someone there or on the way from Maine to there. Will respond to all letters.

Lee A. (ME-0247)

RON B. (NH) (#53)

SWM, Bi, 38, 5'10", 200, well built, brown hair & eyes, good looking. Interested in making contacts with TVs & TSs. Possible relationship. Loves makeup, fancy dresses, high heels, nylons, etc. Owns home, can entertain. Would like monthly parties.

Ron B., P.O. 166, Bedford, NH 03102

GWYNETH H. (S ME) (54)

Participant: Fantasia Fair

TS, 37, 5'7", single. I enjoy long country walks, late dancing, Cinderella stories, folk music and reading. In the last two years my life has opened up with my transition. Fantasia Fair was a very helpful positive experience for me now and for my future.

Gwyneth H. (ME-1270)

Patricia K. (VT-1998)

PATRICIA KELLEY (VT) (#53)

Member: EON (past president)

Participant: Tiffany Couples Weekend

Mid-40's, 5'9", blue eyes, size 14. My wife and I would like to meet mature couples who are comfortable with their gender and the community. We are offering retreats for couples at our Inn in Vermont during April and November. We are interested in skiing, hiking, canoeing, outdoors, and your good company.

Patricia K. (VT-1998)

WENDI LYNN KAISER (S ME) (#54)

SWM, 47, 150, BS EE, MPA, brown eyes, TV on the brink of TS. I'm completing electrolysis, still learning makeup and ready to progress. I'm an ultralight pilot, have horses, and enjoy reading spy mysteries. Wendi is blossoming and I love it. I enjoy going out, and I'm planning on attending Fantasia Fair '89.

Wendi Kaiser, P.O. Box 67, S. Berwick, ME 03908

Karen Ann N. (ME-0787)

KAREN ANN NIELSEN (ME) (#54)

Member: Tiffany

Participant: "Coming Together", Tiffany's P-town Outing

MWM hetero CD (since adolescence), 5'4", 130, friendly, happy, enjoys people, places, & things. Enjoys photography, walking, clothes, dining out, shopping, nature. "I would enjoy corresponding and exchanging photos with other crossdressers. I would also enjoy discreet shopping trips and dining out while dressed."

Karen Ann N. (ME-0787)

LUCILLE (VT) (#54)

5'10", 185, 75, well dressed. 50 years in the closet during two marriages, widowed twice, look like a 50 year old. Very much into make-up & dressing up, but not passible. Interested in skiing, sailing, and cooking. Living the heart of Vermont, and looking for company.

Lucille (VT-2021)

RHODE ISLAND - CONNECTICUT

JANINE D. (RI) (#52)

5'9", 140, auburn hair, blue eyes. Enjoys fashion photography, & computers. "Would like to meet and befriend other transgendered individuals."

Jan, P.O. Box 562, Coventry, RI 02816

Lucille H. (VT-2021)

Ronda D. (RI-1527)

RONDA D. (RI) (#51)

28, 6'1", blue-green eyes, hair usually (not always) black. Nice legs. "I like all sports and being active. I have not been out on the town or even met other TVs. I would very much like to meet more people and talk about everything from dreams to fears. My TV feelings are getting harder to fight and talking to someone who understands would be so helpful to me."

Ronda D. (RI-1527)

SHERRY T. (CT) (#52)

5'10", 150, SWM, 35.

Enjoys photography, music, quiet nights, shopping, and partying.

Sherry T. (CT-1680)

Andrea K. (RI-1771)

ANDREA K. (RI) (#53)

Single, about 5'10", 155, size 12, brown eyes, long brown hair, semi-androgynized. "I'm interested in sci-fi, investing, metaphysics, dress-up traveling. Like to dress like woman full-time, be known as a woman and be treated as one too. I am willing to meet other TV, TS, CS and talk about things. Like lingerie, high heels, hosiery, make-up."

Andrea K. (RI-1771)

Michelle K. (CT-1490)

MICHELLE K. (CT) (#52)

MWM Hetero, 5'10", 47, blue eyes, light brown hair, Attractive, sincere, quiet. Enjoys swimming, cross-country skiing, music, theater, and travel. Looking for honest caring and helpful TV or female individuals.

Michelle K., Box 679, Avon, CT 06001

DARLENE S. ROSS (CT) (#51)

50's, 5'8", 160, gray hair (natural), looks younger than age, not an extrovert. Interests: Cross-dressing, photography, travel, sports (passive), music,reading. "I'm not ready yet to pass, would like to if had some support and help from someone who does pass. Not Bi, would like to correspond (photo exchange) & possibly meet others who are in the area who share this situation for mutual satisfaction."

Darlene R. (CT-0838)

Robin H. (CT-1681)

ROBIN HENDRICKSON (CT) (#52)

TS, 30, 5'9", 170, married to supportive wife, enjoys being a woman. "I am interested in meeting other married TV/TS people around the CT area, and will correspond with all who write. Interested in socializing, partying, shopping, etc., and meeting others like myself."

Robin Hendrickson, P.O. Box 1011, Bristol, CT 06010

RENEE CARROLL (CT) (#52)

SWM hetero TV, 40+, 6'+. Interests range from American history to the causes of transgenderism. Also enjoys cooking, travel and outdoor pursuits, photography, and the feminine gender role.

Renee C. (CT-0292)

PAULA (CT) (#51)

MWM, 33, CD. Tall, blonde, like to be feminine, love wearing lingerie. Would like to meet passable TVs & TSs for movies, dinner, talk, etc.

Paula (CT-1781)

ANDREA (CT) (55)

Married, 49, 5'11, 165. Enjoy sports, good restaurants, reading (especially TV literature). "I would like to get to know my sisters and look forward to correspondence or small group gatherings."

Andrea (CT-0425)

ELAINE G. (CT) (#51)

Widower, WM, young 49, 5'9", 175, business background, quiet and sincere. Enjoy classical music, reading, good friends, live shows, dancing. I like to wear what the average woman wears. "Crossdressing all my life off and on. Got rid of femme clothing when I married.

Now rebuilding my wardrobe. If you are sincere and trustworthy I would like to hear from you. Will answer all ASAP."
Elaine G. (CT-1741)

Carla G. (CT-0212)

CARLA E. GOLDSNIDER (CT) (#53)

SWM, hetero TV, 5'10". Loves to crossdress. Would like to meet TVs and females for girl talk and friendships. I live alone in small house in the country.

Carla E. Goldsnider, 3741 South Street, Coventry, CT 06238

BILLIE LANE (CT) (#52)

"NY - NJ Commute Area: Looking for a house to purchase and turn into individual living quarters on a co-op basis with others."

Billie Lane, Box 4002, Wallington, CT 06492

LISA M. (CT) (#52)

SWM TV, 36, college-educated professional, still in closet.

Enjoys photography, travel, music (jazz, classical, rock and roll), theater, and correspondence. Very interested in the psychology of TV and TS behavior and thought.

Lisa M. (CT-1828)

RAMONA (CT) (#53)

Member: Tri-Ess

Participant: Fantasia Fair

61, 5'11", 180; sometimes resemble Dustin Hoffman's "Tootsie". Enjoy oil painting, creating & altering my own (femme) clothes, and (of course) dressing!

Ramona (CT-1948)

MICHELLE N. (CT) (#52)

Married, bi TV wishes to meet other TVs for direct get-together.

Mike Nichols, Box 9011, New Haven, CT 06532 (CT-0948)

JIM J. (CT) (#54)

5'8", 160, athletic build. Looking to correspond and possibly meet very passable TV/TS age 21-30 in Boston area.

Jim J. (CT-2032)

Linda P. (CT-1784)

LINDA PIERSON (CT) (#52)

32, 5'10", 150, brown hair/eyes, non-understanding wife. Discretion a must! Interested in complete dressing and learning all I can about womanhood. Wish to write and meet with understanding people. "My feelings are getting strange. My ability to deny them is all but gone. Still nervous and in need of guidance. Have P.O. box; wife does not know. Send mail to it freely!"

Linda Pierson, Box 277, Wollinston, CT 06279 (CT-1784)

SUSAN MACDONALD (CT) (#54)

Pre-op M>F TS, 43, 6'2", 150, on hormones 8 months. "I would like to hear from other TS's (pre- and post-op) who share my interest in the outdoors, cats, classical music (renaissance & baroque), and cool jazz.

Susan MacDonald (CT-1463)

KARIN S. (CT) (#52)

34, 5'10", 150, attractive, started electrolysis and hormones. Still feeling my way, but I'm excited about becoming "all of me". I'm scared to death! I am intelligent, creative, play guitar, am friendly and warm. Need a friend? "A friend of Bill's."

Karen S. (CT-1888)

LORI (CT) (#54)

Tall, mature retiree, non-smoker. Enjoys all sports, especially golf and swimming. Also enjoys bridge, real estate, economics, and TV fiction. I am hoping to correspond with and meet a female favorably disposed to a shy novice crossdresser for friendship and fun. I'm also looking forward to correspondence with TVs and TSs with similar interests to share experiences.

Lori (CT-1777)

SAL CARBONE (CT) (#54)

Member: ETVC

Retired life-long TV with understanding wife. Would enjoy hearing how others started dressing and what they do now.

Sal Carbone, P.O. Box 8150, Manchester, CT 06040

Christine L. (CT-1780)

CHRISTINE LANE (CT) (#51)

Member: Harriet Lane's TV Set

SWM, 30's, attractive, adventurous, well dressed heels & hose fanatic. I am into '50's-'60's female impersonation, both eloquent and vamp. He likes sports and 20th century memorabilia collecting. She enjoys perfecting the image, dancing on Saturday nights, and travelling or entertaining for extended weekends. "I am desperately seeking an attractive, caring TV sister possessing the warmth and tenderness of a good hearted woman."

Christine Lane, Box 4002, Wallingford, CT 06492 (CT-1780)

Diane M. (CT-1812)

DIANE MAYNARD (CT) (#53)
Member: Connecticut View
DWM TV, 48, 5'6", 145. Have been crossdressing for 40 yrs. I live by myself and enjoy going to parties dressed. Am looking for correspondence and companionship.
R.G. Maynard, P.O. Box 169, Somersville, CT 06072

LESLINA SUSAN (CT) (#54)
Member: Tri-Ess, CT-View, Tiffany
SWM, 30, British hetero CD, 5'11", nice, caring, sincere, respectful, understanding, supportive. Likes to correspond/meet other CD/TV/TSs for possible get-togethers, and friendship. Would also like to hear from nice, caring genetic girls. Am interested in improving my feminine self. Enjoys photography, videography, music, special research, etc. Non-smoker, social drinker, real British lady/princess.
Leslina Susan - BIR - P.O. Box 106, Rocky Hill, CT 06067-0106

HEATHER M. (CT) (#52)
WM, 34, 190. Interested in crossdressing, talking to others, and wishes to hear from all TVs, TSs who can help me come out.
Heather (CT-1882)

RACHEL F. BOYCE (CT) (#52)
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing, Fantasia Fair
Professional business person, likes life, music, dancing, shopping, and most of all crossdressing. I Would like to meet more TV/TS persons and become more aware of my own self in the process.
Ms Rachel F. Boyce, P.O. Box 985, Windsor, CT 06095

RENA V. (CT) (#54)
DWM TV, retired, 50's, size 20. Loves the feminine feeling, nylons & heels. Has video & polaroid cameras. Looking for friends.
Rena (CT-0943)

NEW YORK

BARBARA R. EVANS (NYC) (#52)
WM TV, 37, 5'8", 155lbs. Crossdressing since 12. Honest, open-minded and willing to accept my gender issues. Interests: Music (blues, be-hop jazz, country), movies, dining out, the Ocean, spiritual growth, travelling, and women's fashions. Am in a committed relationship w/girlfriend; we're both working on acceptance. Recently came out and have feelings of guilt and anxiety. Would like to hear from others who "have been through it" (including those in support groups).
Barbara R. Evans (NY-1861)

MICHELE P. (N.NY) (#51)
Member: TGIC
MWM, 39, 5'11", brown hair & eyes
Interests: Dining out, dancing, high fashion, gourmet cooking, shopping. "Would like to correspond & meet other TVs or TSs, especially married TVs, for support and friendship."
Michele P. (NY-1534)

Joan F. (NY-1220)

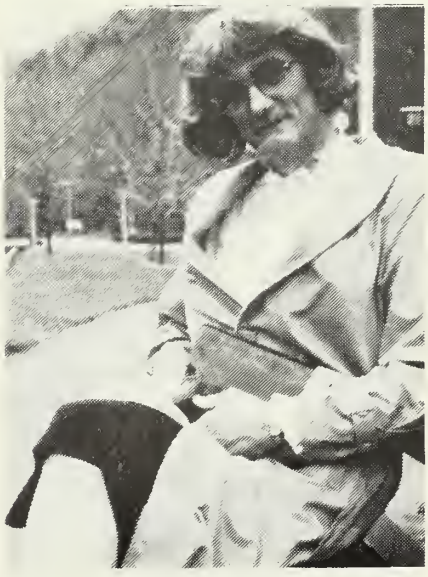
JOAN FASHIONS (N. NY) (#54)
Member: Tri Ess, NGA
MWM TV/TG, 54, retired. Live mostly as Joan. Travel NYC/NJ area for shopping, socials, etc. Family grown and understanding. Letters with photo will receive prompt response.
Joan Fashions, P.O. Box 1756 S. Rd Annex, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Joanna P. (NY-0973)

JOANNA PAULINE (W. NY) (#52)
Member: Tri Ess, EON, TVA
Hetero TV, 40, engineer, 2 children, wife knows and is tolerant but finds acceptance hard. Interests: Photography, cinema, home video, gardening, swimming. Hopes to meet new friends at the local meetings.
Joanna Pauline, BX-STS, PO Box 15731, Rochester, NY 14615 (716) 458-7633

Vickie St. (NY-1035)

VICKIE STONE (L.I. NY) (#52)
Member: LIFE, Chi Delta Mu
6', 180, life-long TV, out of closet since 1982, married, heterosexual, 2 kids. Wife not supportive, although aware. Attorney. Interests: Skiing, writing (fiction & non-fiction), music (former pro musician), guitar, electric bass, singing, song-writing. Would like to find TV ski bums to ski upstate NY & VT. Likes to travel. Encourages correspondence and will answer sooner or later. Enjoys working with novice TVs and taking them out. Extremely active in LIFE, and is one of the editors of LIFELINES, the club newsletter.
Vickie Stone, Box 121, Seaford, NY 11785



Gretchen L. (NY-1359)

GRETCHEN L. (W. NY) (#54)
Participant: Fantasia Fair
6'1", blue eyes, 195, good figure. Enjoys bike riding, hiking and crossdressing. Would like to meet other TVs in the Buffalo NY area. Would like to have dinner out.
Gretchen L., P.O. Box 231, Celeron, NY 14720

Joanne E. (NY-1224)

JOANNE E. (S. NY) (#54)

Member: Tri-Ess

MWM, 56, 6', 250. Interests: "I love to dress and have done so every day for 25 years. Have very supportive wife who would love to hear from other wives or SO's Promise to answer all with photo."

Joanne E., P.O. Box 310, Mohegan Lake, NY 10547

Angela S. (NY-0719)

ANGELA S. (NY) (#52)

Member: EON, TVA

Events: P-Town Couples' Weekend, Joyce Dewhurst Pocono Outings, IFGE Chicago convention. Magnetically attracted to a good time, actively involved in helping other crossdressers. Supportive wife, passable at times (stopped caring about other times), always enjoy being Angela. Supportive of all crossdressing groups.

Angela S. (NY-0719)

Randi R. (NY-1814)

RANDI ROGERS (NY) (#53)

Single, 34, 6'. Enjoy sports, golf, quiet evenings, and outdoors. Live in Niagara Falls. "I am just now starting to feel good about myself. Would like to hear from others with their thoughts, ideas, and comments. I'm interested in attending parties and meetings.

Randi Rogers, P.O. Box 1473, Buffalo, NY 14240-1473

Jan (NY-1187)

JAN (NY) (#53)

Member: Tri-Ess, NYGA

Events: Poconos Weekend

SWM, 41, 5'11", 170 lbs. I like to dress lady-like and conservative for a night out with friends at comfortable Manhattan restaurants and cabarets. I also love to dress up for classical concerts and opera. Would enjoy sharing experiences.

Jan (NY-1187)

CORETTA GOODWIN (N. NY) (#51)

Member: Tri Ess

28, TV for 15 years, retail sales manager, husband & father. Enjoys making pottery, computers, toys, spy novels, comic books.

Coretta G. (NY-1535)

RENEE' SLOCUM (NY) (#53)

SWM, 31, 5'11, 160, college educated, hetero, shy, not out of the closet, good sense of humor. Would like to correspond with and possibly meet other CDs and women in the Finger Lakes area to swap ideas and possibly form a local group.

Renee' Slocum, Box 977, Geneva, NY 14456

MICHELLE M. (NY) (#52)

Member: L.I.F.E.

Events: Fantasia Fair '87, '88; Tiffany Spring Outing '88, IFGE Coming Together Convention '88

I love to go out in public and pass easily. My appearance is very good, but need work on mannerisms and especially voice. Working on developing one integrated, androgenous personality rather than two extremes. Love music (popular, jazz) skiing (advanced intermediate) and all things feminine.

Michelle M., 114-41 Queens Blvd., #272, Forest Hills, NY 11375

Jennifer W. (NY-1597)

JENNIFER WELLS (NY) (#52)

MWM, hetero TV, 5'11", 200, blue eyes, 39. Very feminine appearing. Enjoy boating, water sports, writing poetry, building and gardening, wigs and makeup. "I like to help other TVs and TSs try and work through their problems. Am very active with TV/TS Support Group through CompuServe."

Jennifer Wells, Box 1417, Troy, NY 12181

FRANCINE LORRAINE C. (W NY) (#51)

Member: Butterfly

SWM, 46, 5'10", 180, brown eyes, hetero. Interests: Outdoors, fishing, hunting, hiking, reading, history, and dressing up. "I'm interested in corresponding with and meeting other TVs, TSs, and women with whom I can be my feminine self."

Francine Lorraine C. (NY-1584)

Connie T. (NY-0434)

CONNIE TAYLOR (W. NY) (#52)

MWM elderly hetero TV, 5'5", 125, with supportive wife. Likes clean cut clothes and tall heels. Loves to correspond and all letters promptly answered.

Connie Taylor, Box 0734, Jamestown, NY 14702

WINNIE BRANT (N. NY) (#52)

Member: Tiffany, Tri Ess, EON

Awards: Miss Fantasia Fair

Hetero TV, 50+, 6'2", a lady. Has many interests, scientific and culturally oriented. Loves to travel.

Mr W. Brant, Box 741, Schenectady, NY 12301

DEE C. (W. NY) (#52)

Bi-SWM TV, 30ish, professional, college educated. Enjoys travel, clubbing, movies, video, golf, skiing.

Dee C. (NY-0708)

KATHI FERRIS (N. NY) (#51)

52, 5'8", slim, dark haired. Enjoys folk and rock music, reading, writing, poetry, fiction, and philosophy.

"I would like to meet others in the Bennington, VT area who crossdress or are understanding about it."

Kathi F. (NY-1677)

Barbara B. (NY-0258)

BARBARA B. (L.I. NY) (#52)

Member: NYCGA

MWM, 48, 5'10", 160. Wife does not approve.

Interests: Fashion, Music, dancing, new friends. Values friendship, honest, and discretion. Passable in public, but very nervous about it. Prefers all CD settings. just re-emerging from the closet after 3 years. Looking forward to enjoying our special sisterhood again!

Barbara B. (NY-0258)

ROXEY PISANI (W. NY) (#51)

Enjoys music, fashionable clothes, makeup, cosmetics, reading.

Roxey Pisani (NY-1694)

CONSTANCE LEE (NY) (#53)

MWM, 36, hetero, interested in writing and hearing from others to whom "CD" means more than "Compact Disk". Honest, sincere, and quick as possible with correspondence. Enjoy "girl talk" through the mail. Especially interested in hints and experiences of being more ladylike, but open to any topic.

Constance Lee, Box 368, Derby, NY 14047-0368

JULIE ANN C. (N. NY) (#51)

TV, cannot remember since when, it's been so long ago, and still going strong. 49, 4'9". Was a member of Albany TVIC and FPE. Will answer all letters.

Julie Ann C. (NY-1695)

Candi Sue (NY-1735)

MS. CANDACE SUSANN ("CANDI SUE") (W. NY) (#51)

"I'm 30-something, tall, green eyes, and usually red hair. I have one high heeled foot out of the closet; and am looking forward to stepping the rest of the way out with you girls. I just adore all pretty, feminine fashions. My interests include science, nature, psychology, stimulating conversation, emotional release, shopping malls, and writing. I have prepared a sincere and touching photodiary of mu private thoughts and experiences that I think you all will enjoy. My wife is tolerant (at best) of this part of my life, and I need open communication. So please do write."

Ms. Candace Susanne, c/o Box 852, Derby, NY 14047 (NY-1735)

Josephine C. (NY-0880)

JOSEPHINE (NY) (#53)

Member: Tiffany, Tri-Ess

Participant: Principal events in Europe and US.

Hetero, married, middle age, 5'10", engineer. Very long life as a TV. "I love shopping,

gardening, cooking, cleaning, and photography. My work enables me to travel, and I would enjoy to meet others, even abroad. Will reply all mail.

J. Chara, Box 671, Tarrytown, NY 10591

(Terri B. (NY-1714)

TERRI BARBER (NY) (#51)

MWM TV, 5'7", blue eyes, 165 lbs. and losing. I'm 34 years old and finally accepting myself. I'm interested in all sports and I love music. Would like to correspond for helpful hints and friendship. I plan to fully explore my femme self. Will try to answer all letters.

Terri Barber, Box 740, Schenectady, NY 12301-0740

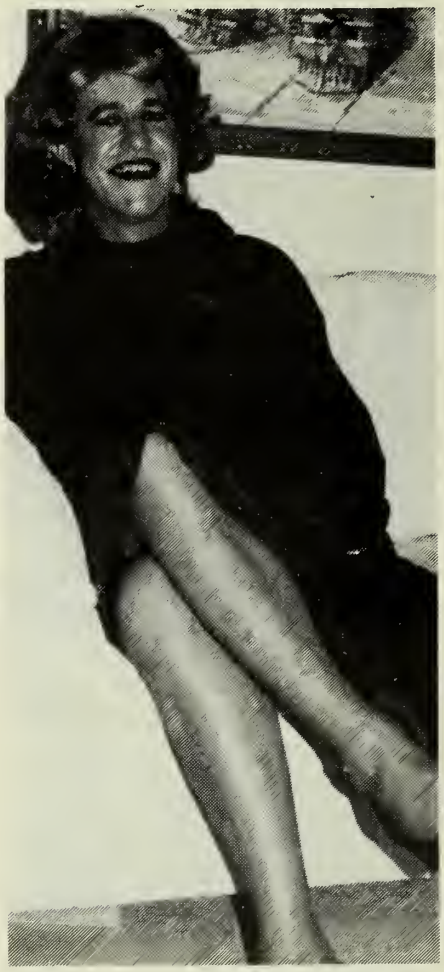
Camile M. (NY-0582)

CAMILE M. (SE NY) (#52)

Member: Tiffany, Chi Delta Mu Tri-Ess

Hetero crossdresser, 72, 5'10", 164, methodist, widower. Honest and security conscious. Love and enjoy people. Live by the "golden rule" and a strict moral code. Enjoy crossdressing and household repairs. Love & write music and play various instruments. Would love to meet a nice woman who will accept me part time en femme, or (better yet) as "sister companion" and sometimes as male companion.

C.A.M. McLaughlin, Box 207, Pelham, NY 10803



Charliss D. (NY-1856)

CHARLISS D. (Central NY) (#52)

Member: Tiffany

SWM, 45, 6', 185, size 16/18, and attractive. Enjoy music, literature, ballet, horseback riding, sailing, and skiing. World traveller. Dress often. Love elegant evening wear; passions are heels, stockings, and accessories. "A lifelong CD, but new to the culture. Desire to meet others like myself for feminine sharing. Would like more experience going out, or quiet evenings at home with another. A sharer who can receive as well as give.

Charliss D. (NY-1856)

LYNDA (NY) (#53)

MWM, 35, TV. Interested in writing to and meeting with others who are interested in crossdressing. Looking for someone who could help me with same.

Lynda (NY-0775)

MISSY B. (NY) (#52)

5'8", 152, medium build, mahogany colored brown eyes.

Interests: Music, composing, listening, poetry, studying stock cars, meditating, exercising, observing nature.

"I love positive persons who don't put down others for their own self-glory and those who believe in uplifting another no matter the status or color."

Missy B. (NY-1716)

Bonnie H. (NY-1186)

BONNIE H. (W. NY) (#53)

Member: EON

MWM, 38, 5'7", size 12, blue eyes and brown hair.

Bonnie's interests include sailing, golf, singing, and ship model building. Bonnie dresses very frequently and has the full support of her spouse. Passions are shoes and pierced earrings. Very conservative in appearance, typical of today's active businesswoman. Bonnie would enjoy corresponding with any sister.

Bonnie H. (NY-1186)

Trenna Marie M. (NY-0623)

TRENNA MARIE M. (W. NY.) (#51)

Member: Tri-Ess

Participant: Wine Country Weekend

Hetero TV, 64, 158, 5'8", has been dressing 54 years. Supportive wife.

Interests: Winston Cup stock racing, railroading, sewing, and being feminine. "Love to go out dressed, but can't in my area. Love to write and will answer all."

Trenna Marie (NY-0623)

STEPHANIE LYNN (NY) (#52)
Member: IFGE
5'9, 36, 180, dk. blond, size 18. TV with TS desires. Sensitive and caring. "I have been dressing since pre-teen years. Not yet passable; need help with make-up and voice. Look pretty when dressed and feel very natural in a pretty dress and heels. Will answer all."
Stephanie Lynn (NY-1774)

LAURA STONE (NY) (#52)
TV, 43, 5'10", married. Enjoy film, art, literature, fashion, and all things feminine. Would enjoy meeting or corresponding with other TVs interested in discreet, safe outings or just plain socializing.
Laura Stone (NY-1924)

MONIQUE TELESE (NY) (#53)
Attendee: Be All '87, '88
5'11" tall, 158 lbs., naturally dark brown hair. Totally passable; starting voice lessons. Enjoy driving classic Corvette, dining out, shopping, quiet "fireplace" evenings, good wine, music, and conversation.
Monique Telese (NY-1184)

Brenda K. (NY-1887)

BRENDA KEITH (N NY) (#53)
Member: EON
MWM, 32, 5'6", outgoing, ski nearly every day in winter, motorcycle in summer. Am taking up hobie cat racing this spring. This year Brenda has hopes of getting out more than ever. I want to develope all aspects of my femininity. I would enjoy meeting and writing to TVs and TSs, especially those who live near ski areas and have room for a guest.
Brenda Keith, P.O. Box 168, Bridgeport, NY 13030

DELORES MERHIGE (E NY) (#53)
Member: Chi Delta Mu, LIFE, Serenity
Participant: Fantasia Fair, Poconos W/E, 'Coming Together'
Married, middle-aged, 5'10", medium build, engineer, life long TV. Interests: Fashion, clothes, makeup, socializing, music, art, photography, sailing, tennis, reading. Promises to answer all mail as quickly as possible.
D. Merhige, P.O. Box 327, Massapequa Park, NY 11762

LOU BETCHER (E NY) (#52)
MWM, bi, 43, 6'1", 168, brown/gray hair. Am interested in meeting other bi TVs for social times. Would appreciate photo, and would return upon request. All answered.
Lou Betcher, Box 501, Brentwood, LI, NY 11717

BETTY PRINCE (NYC NY) (#54)
WS pre-op TS, 5'7", light brown hair, green eyes. Can pass as a woman without problem, likes all sports, music, and sci-fi books and movies.
Betty P. (NY-1304)

TINA SCHULTZ (E NY) (#53)
SWM hetero, 30, 5'8", 140. Has been dressing for over 20 years. Enjoys sports, sci-fi, computers, and of course crossdressing. I'm still a novice but looking to come out and pass in public.
Tina S. (NY-1981)

KIMBERLY SHAEL (W NY) (#53)
45, 5'5", handsome, with an excellent sense of humor. Enjoys tennis, racquetball, bicycling, flying, relaxing evenings, movies, and travel. Would love to correspond with all. Would welcome all TVs passing through the area. Come visit and chat awhile. I have been a TV all my life and have only recently come to appreciate my feminine side. I love to write.
Kimberly S. (NY-2022)

NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA

SHEILA KIRK (W PA) (#51)
IFGE Board of Directors (Executive Committee), 'Coming Together' staff
Member: Tiffany Club, TransPitt, Paradise
Participant: Everything
Attractive TV, dedicated to this wonderful joy of dressing. I work very hard so moments of relaxation and pleasure of this sort are precious to me. I love being a TV, and I'm anxious to meet many others who delight in the same feelings.
Sheila K. (PA-0336)

ARLETTE (NJ) (#53)
SWM TV, 5'6", 36, slight build, passable. Quiet, sincere, and discreet. Educated professional. "Seeking sincere, mature, stable man for dating and romance to treat me like the woman I am. Permanent relationship possible. Will answer all. Phone number gets immediate response."
Arlette, Box 225, Holmdel, NJ 07733

Elena L. (NJ-1200)

ELENA L. (NJ) (#52)
Participant: Fantasia Fair
Single bi-TV, 30s, petite. Intelligent, sensitive, and sincere. Progressive and humanistic minded. Resemble Hoffman's "Tootsie", but am much cuter. I participate in NY area parties and activities; would enjoy travel companion for visits to other places. Also enjoy quiet, romantic times with non-TVs.
Elena L., Box 4805, Clifton, NJ 07015

Phyllis D. (NJ-1515)

PHYLLIS DANIELS (NJ) (#52)
Mid 40s, TV who likes to go out dressed.
Interests: Classical and contemporary music. "I am a great cook and enjoy a good wine and friends to share it." Would like to correspond with other TVs.
Phyllis Daniels, P.O. Box 897, Brick, NJ 08723

NEAL MOWDER (NJ) (#52)
Single male over 60. Interested in hearing from others who are considering sex reassignment surgery and who are working through their

adjustments. Would like to be your friend. I enjoy history, hiking, walking, travel, collecting Indian relics, nature, sports, and pets.

Neal Mowder, Route 57 W. Box 6, Washington, NJ 07882

KAREN V. (N. NJ) (#51)

Member: Tiffany

SWM hetero TV, 38, 5'8", 155, good personality and sense of humor. Adventuress (sic). "A classical music nut, I also enjoy card and word games, karate (black belt), skiing, and gourmet food. I would like to meet women who share some of these interests and are open minded about the crossdressing scene."

Karen V. (NJ-0347)

SUE (NJ) (51)

5'5", 140, well proportioned and cute. Can't pass. Well educated; write well. "Since dressing up in my younger sister's clothing as a child, the attraction of dressing not only in women's clothing but also in young teenage clothing has only gotten stronger. All members who have such interests and would like to correspond on the subject, please write. I will answer all promptly."

Sue (NJ-1774)

Joanna G. (NJ-0520)

JOANNA G. (NJ) (#53)

Member: Tiffany, Renaissance

Participant: Fantasia Fair, Tiffany events, Be-All.

DWM, 65, 6', healthy, non-smoker. Am interested in fashioning my own gowns, etc., learning knitting, and enjoy dining out, good music which would include the Boston Pops. "I have a feminine nature, like real values and relationships, and am considerate. Desire lasting, good friends; love "girl talk". Am nutritionally oriented, and consider good health to be of prime importance." Will respond to correspondence as is possible.

Joanna G. (NJ-0520)

DIANE BOWERS (NJ) (#52)

Member: ETVC, Renaissance, Tiffany

TS, 36, 6', 150, blonde and blue eyed. Business professional with varied hobbies and interests. Electrolysis and hormones under way. Encourage new friends to write. Am expanding my involvement in the TV/TS community and want to share and help others if I can.

Diane B. (NJ-1642)

JANN (NJ) (#53)

Divorced; semi-retired but feels like "kid sister". Interested in femme clothes, wigs, makeup, nature, art, music, correspondence, women's issues, home decorating, learning to cook and sew. Strictly heterosexual; would like to be a woman's housewife and husband. "I need correspondence."

Jann (NJ-1602)

VERONICA HAMMER (NJ) (#53)

Member: Renaissance

Single, 25, 5'11", 185, PhD student in fine arts. Very active on gender oriented BBSs. "I'm a "GenderNomad". Every place in GenderLand is nice to visit, but I wouldn't want to live there forever. I have many supportive friends in the university community, am reaching out to the gender community for support, education, and friendship."

Veronica Hammer, P.O. Box 309, Princeton Junction, NJ 08550

CHRISTINE M. (NJ) (#53)

Interests: High-end audio, sports, women's fashions catalogs and dressing. SWM, TV, 38, 5'11", 152. Gentle, sensitive, caring. About 25 years in the closet; now it's time to communicate with others in deepening my female side. Seek advice from passable TV regarding femme voice, make-up, hair, etc. Will respond promptly.

Christine M. (NJ-1933)

Maryann K. (PA-1531)

MARYANN KIRKLAND (E. PA) (#51)

Member: Renaissance

MWM hetero TV, 5'11", 38, auburn hair, and expressive brown eyes. Interests: Classical ballet, opera, 19th century literature, fine wines, shopping & partying with other sisters. "I'm willing to work to create a positive educated public image of crossdressing. Fond of full skirts, petticoats, crinolines and hair ornaments. Those of like interest should write."

Maryann Kirkland, Suite 401, New Woman Marketplace, Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Cindy H. (PA-0852)

CINDY H. (E. PA) (#51)

38, 5'9, 170, brn/hazel, Sagittarius, feminine GW TV/pre-op TS. "I enjoy living my life as a woman whenever possible. I love to dress up, go out and socialize. I am looking for a lasting relationship with a masculine man."

Cindy H. (PA-0952)

Barbara W. (PA-1722)

BARBARA WHITE (W. PA) (#52)

Member: TransPitt

5'10", 170, brown hair, green eyes, very passable, married. "Would like to meet other TV/TS's, and have a male take me out dinner/dancing. Nothing bizarre, please."

Barbara White (PA-1722)

Janet R. (PA-1879)

JANET ROSE (PA) (#53)

SWM TV, 46, 5'11", 149. Interests: business, race cars, domestic chores, crossdressing. I do turn into an exhibitionist in front of a camera. Would love to meet mature, understanding women for fun and friendship. Girlfriend also interested in meeting CDs/wives.

Janet Rose (PA-1879)

SALLY JO O. (E. PA) (#51)

MWM, 63, 6'1", 180, hazel eyes, light brown hair, dressing since I was 10. Interests: Music, sports (golf), computers. "I love to dress in my own home. Only just beginning to come out. Have no pictures yet. Never told anyone till recently. Married, 7 children, no family member knows. Would like to talk & correspond with other girls."

Sally Jo O. (PA-1537)

CATHERINE ROSEMARY D. (E. PA) (#52)

Member: Outreach

SWM hetero crossdresser, 60+, 5'9", 190

"It's unlikely that I would pass, but am interested in the world of the crossdresser, and would like to get acquainted."

Catherine D. (PA-0748)

RICKY HUNT (E. PA) (#52)

MWM, 260+, 6'2", enjoys reading sci-fi & mysteries. Also enjoys photography, old houses, electronics, cooking, computers, hiking. "Can anyone else see the humorous side of crossdressing? I love corresponding and making new friends. Write and say hello."

Ricky Hunt, Box 263, Towanda, PA 18848

Robyn Ann D. (NJ-1337)

ROBYN ANN D. (NJ) (#54)

Member: Renaissance

Participant: Fantasia Fair, Poconos W/E

Is the publisher of 'En Femme' magazine, has appeared on local & national television talk shows. Is an author, artist, photographer, film buff, and tennis nut.

Robyn Ann, c/o 'En Femme', P.O. Box 7854, West Trenton, NJ 08628

DAVIDA T. (E. PA) (#52)

SWM, 38, shy and discreet. Trying to come out.

Enjoy spending my free time being as feminine as possible. I'm seeking understanding friends who may lend me a little support. Looking forward to visiting a P-town outing. My goal is to play a round of golf in a sun dress."

Davida T. (PA-0944)

ROBIN FREY (PA) (#53)

Member: Philadelphia Dignity (TS support group)

40-year-old pre-op would love to find employment and live full-time as a female. Free to travel; would love for other TVs and TSs to give me a call.

Robin, Box 1341, West Chester, PA 19380 (215) 696-6468 (PA-0932)

SHEILA H. (W. PA) (#51)

Retired TV. Need help to expand life as TV. I enjoy sailing, ship modeling, and needlepoint. Wish to correspond with girls who like heels, make-up, and photos.

Sheila H. (PA-0743)

ALISON LAING (E PA) (#54)

Member: Renaissance

Awards: FF Miss Congeniality

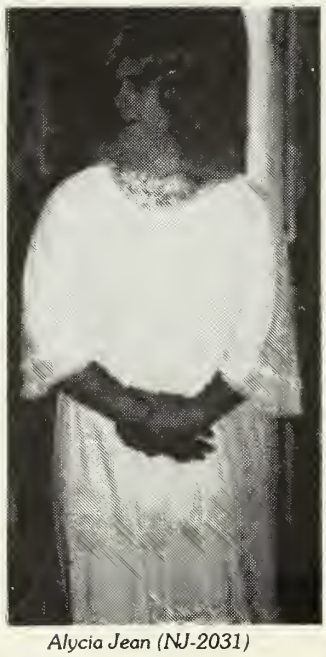
Middle age, middle sized, life-long CD. Married with wonderful supportive spouse. Enjoys arts and crafts, jewelry and fabrics. Loves to shop at fleamarkets and antique shops. Loves good food, wine, travel and dancing. "I take my gender shift very seriously and work hard to be at least unobtrusive if not passable. Most of all I try to have lots of fun and at the same time help make others in our community happy."

Alison Laing, P.O. Box 635, Phoenixville, PA 19460

KATHERINE CHARLOTTE H. (NJ) (#53)

DWM, 6'1", 180, mid-40's, brown hair past shoulders, brown eyes, soft skin. Country girl yearns to come out and meet other girls. Am true-blue honest, and caring. Can travel & I long to find a place to stay until I can pass in public. Will write all.

Katherine H. (NJ-2073)



Alycia Jean (NJ-2031)

ALYCIA JEAN (NJ) (#53)

Married hetero TV, 34, 6'1", size 20. My excellent wife cooperates fully & allows me complete freedom of expression. I have never talked or met with another TV & I'm not really sure if I'm ready.

Alycia Jean (NJ-2031)

ROBIN F. (W PA) (#54)

SWM, 39, 6'1", 165. Professional. Interests: Jogging, jazz, mysteries, myth, mysticism, sports & cooking. Would enjoy dialogue with others interested in caring, non-exploitive, supportive relationships and psychology of crossdressing fantasies. Mine include frilly square dancing outfits, petticoats swirling under kilts, and ballerinas.

Robin F. (PA-2020)

MARYLAND - DELAWARE - DC - VIRGINIA - WEST VIRGINIA

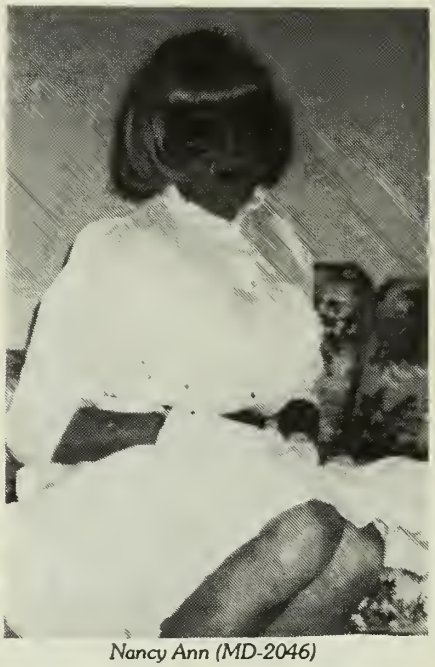
PRISCILLA WENTWORTH (WV) (#53)
Member: Crossroads
MWM TV, 5'10", 170. Retired from Foreign Service. Widely travelled, broad interests. Likes to correspond with other TVs/TSs.
P.M. Wentworth, Box 687, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

ADRIENNE R. (MD) (#52)
SWM, 36, 5'11", 150.
"My idea of fun is a quiet evening drink with a friend -- both of us in skirts, heels, and hose. We're perfectly made up and chatting about chiffon dresses with nipped waists and wide rustling skirts. We may go shopping together tomorrow, or at least dream about the possibility. If this sort of scene sounds appealing, let's try it by mail first, then talk about meeting. Love letter and photo exchange with all."
Boxholder, P.O. Box 92, Laurel, MD 20707

Lola (MD-1831)

LOLA (MD) (#53)
Member: "Gender Identity Outreach Center USA", "My Choice"
Attractive SW TV, active in the TV/TS community. Currently seeking new TV/TS friends. "I enjoy all things feminine, and helping my TV/TS friends improve their "femme" appearance, as I am a professional makeup artist and costume designer.
Lola, c/o Gender Identity Outreach Center, Box 133, Westminster, MD 21157

SUSAN REYNOLDS (VA) (#53)
Member: IFGE, Tri-Ess
Participant: P-town and Poconos gatherings
Reasonably passable. Love sleek clothing. Adore being VERY buxom when at home. I write to a number of sisters, and especially enjoy writing to those sisters who like being buxom. Am very happy and content with myself as a woman.
Susan Reynolds, Box 11160, Alexandria, VA 22312



Nancy Ann (MD-2046)

NANCY ANN (MD) (#54)
Member: Tri-Ess, W.B.A.
Brown hair/eyes, 5'9", 165. Have dressed on & off since age 12; now wear women's clothes as often as men's. Enjoy bowling, softball, and table tennis. Like to correspond. Much happier dressed as Nancy!
Nancy Ann (MD-2046)

DIANE P. (MD) (#53)
Member: Tri-Ess
MWM, TV, 40's. Interested in music (plays guitar, banjo, keyboard), woodworking, restoring old cars, computers. Also enjoys correspondence.
DS Associates, P.O. Box 194, Joppa, MD 21085

CHRISTINA (VA) (#53)
Member: Tri-Ess
MWM, 40s, 6', 185. Enjoy photography, big band music, collectable records, cooking, and going out dressed whenever possible. Also like to correspond with other sisters. Forming new Tri-Ess group in Richmond, VA area. Would like to attend Holiday En Femme or similar large event.
Christina (VA-1868)

MARY ELLEN (DC) (#53)
Member: Tri-Ess
MWM, 55, limited opportunities to dress; enjoy it thoroughly. Understanding wife in terms of personal underclothing. Love to read TV fiction and real life experiences of others. Correspondence will be answered.
Mary Ellen (DC-1438)

Emily (DE-0629)

EMILY (DE) (#51)
Member: Renaissance
Events: Fan-Fair 86, 87, 88; Paradise in Poconos 88
Middle age (48), pleasingly plump (well 200+-) TV, passes in public (or at least gets away with it). By the example and loving help of many, not a few of whom appear in these pages, I have learned to put down the burden and accept the gift. Would like to travel and visit TV groups in other states.
Emily (DE-0629)

Roberta L. (DC-0972)

ROBERTA LEWIS (DC) (#52)
6'2", 36, chairperson Washington-Baltimore Alliance Interests: Bicycling, top 40, dancing. "If you're coming to DC, write me. If not, write me anyway. Also would like to hear from other black crossdressers."
R. Lewis, P.O. Box 50724, Washington, DC 20004-0724

Pauline (MD-1860)

PAULINE (MD) (#51)

30, 5'6", married TV, practicing Catholic, somewhat understanding wife. Enjoy music, writing, and poetry. "I'm very interested in meeting other transvestite or transsexuals from the Baltimore/Washington area or corresponding with any elsewhere in the US."

Pauline (MD-1860)

Angela A. (VA-0736)

ANGELA CAROL ASH (VA) (#53)

Member: Sigma Epsilon Chapter

Participant: P-Town, Joyce Dewhurst, "Be All"

Awards: FF "Best Dressed" award,

Blond, blue eyes, 6'0, 49, 130, dressing since age 12. Very active member Tri-Ess. Broad minded, interested in other TVs in VA, NC, TN, and KY. Friendly, professionally employed, enjoy social events, dancing, and fancy clothes.

Angela Carol Ash (VA-0736)

JAYNE M. (DC) (#53)

Late 40's, 5'9", 165, brown hair, blue eyes. Finally giving my feminine side a chance to come out. Still learning, so would appreciate any help from sisters.

J.M., P.O. Box 33111, Washington, DC 20033

Kay Gould (VA-0323)

KAY GOULD (VA) (#51)

Very feminine and totally passable. Enjoy all aspects of feminine lifestyle. Strong personality with ultra feminine tastes. Enjoy fine music, dining, theatre, and high fashion. "I date extensively, and travel heavily throughout the US. I appreciate male escorts in most cities. Am very accomplished in all feminine ways but am demanding in personality. I also write for several national publications."

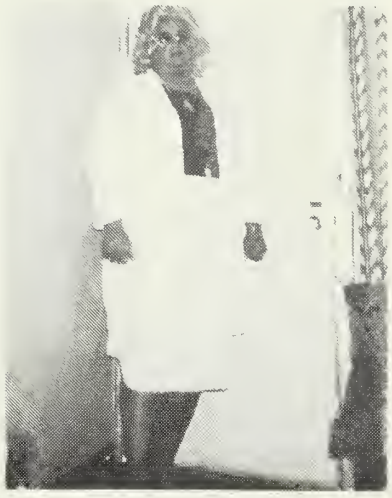
Kay Gould, Box 8562, Alexandria, VA 22306

Clare Q. (VA-1935)

CLARE QUILTY (VA) (#53)

TS, 6'1", slim, athletic, schoolteacher. "I am a shy, caring person who wishes to bring out my feminine self. I would like to correspond with like-minded people. Especially interested in the physical and emotional aspects of the transformation process. I enjoy reading (history and fiction), distance running, and juggling.

Clare Quilty, Box 1673, Louisa, VA 23093



Alona M. (wVA-1804)

ALONA VICTORIA MILLER (WV) (#53)

Member: Tri-Ess, IXE, Cross-Port, Trans-Pitt

Participant: IFGE 1988

6', MWM, Heterosexual. I enjoy building plastic models, miniature war games, sewing, cooking, and improving my feminine image. I am a full-time clergy-person and would be willing to help any of my "sisters" and "brothers" accept themselves as persons of worth.

Alona V. Miller (WV-1804)

LYNN H. (VA) (#54)

Tall, slightly overweight. "I enjoy cooking, games, and meeting people who want to enjoy positive aspects of life."

Lynn H. (VA-1318)

NORTH CAROLINA - SOUTH CAROLINA - GEORGIA - FLORIDA

LINDA W. (GA) (#51)

Member: Tri Ess

SWM TV, 5'10", 180, size 18, 29. Computer systems analyst, loves all music (especially jazz), voracious reader, runner, hiker. "After almost 30 years in the closet, I'm trying to emerge and make some TV/TG/TS friends. I'm getting involved in an emerging Tri-Ess Chapter in the Southeast. Will answer all."

Linda W. (GA-16)

KIM BLAIR (FL) (#52)

Male, married TV in mid-40s. Interests: Cross dressing with special interest in full skirts and full petticoats. "I would like to correspond with, or meet other TVs and TV couples. I like the mid-Florida area's east coast.

Kim B. (FL-1606)

Petra D. (NC-1314)

PETRA D. (NC) (#54)

Member: Sigma Epsilon Chapter

30's, 6'2", 190. Lifelong crossdresser with supportive wife. Recently out of the closet. We are moving to Northern Florida and would appreciate hearing from like-minded people in the area. I am enjoying the opportunity to express my femininity outwardly.

Petra D. (NC-1314)

BOBBIE KAYE (FL) (#51)

MWM, bi, 53, 5'11", 175, fair, trim, college BA, professional, friendly. Enjoys tennis & golf. "Closet crossdresser for 25 years, but really feel relaxed and smile when I'm dressed. Would like to hear from others and meet in Florida."

B.K., P.O. Box 5021, Sarasota, FL 34277

LINDA S. (SE FL) (#52)

6', 180, 60+. Interested in feminizing personality and psychological thinking. Looking for help in resocialization as a woman.

Linda S. (FL-0938)

JOAN ANN OTTLAND (NW FL) (#52)

Member: Tri Ess

SWM, 5'10", 50's. Enjoys swimming, cycling, history, music, bridge, calligraphy. Recently widowed and TV active. Interested in corresponding with other middle Gulf Coast heterosexual TVs, or empathizing age group GGs.

Joan Ottland, Suite 129, 8084 N. Davis Hwy E3, Pensacola, FL 32514

Claudia K. (FL-1833)

CLAUDIA K. (FL) (#51)

Member: Tri-Ess, Cross-Port (Cinci), IXE (Indy)

Participant: Be All, Fantasia Fair.

Warm, quiet, mature (63) widowed WM, natural, longtime CD, retired M.E. I winter in Naples, FL; summer in Cincinnati, OH. I enjoy travel, photography (video and still), sewing, and correspondence. I answer all promptly.

Claudia K. (FL-1833)

Sandy J. (NC-0906)

SANDY JOHNSON (NC) (#53)

5'7", 140 lbs.

Interested in corresponding with other TVs, TSs to achieve a better understanding and acceptance of our community.

Sandy Johnson, 4832 Park Rd., Box 293, Charlotte, NC 28209

Jennifer R. (FL-0739)

JENNIFER REECE (FL) (#52)

SWM, tall but good looking as either sex.

Interests: Motor boating, diving, tennis and being all femme or all male. Would like to meet an understanding woman or TS and have a good time.

Jennifer Reece, P.O. Box 10296, 57th Ave, Bradenton, FL 34282

Joan J. FL-1703)

JOAN J. (SW FL) (#51)

SWM hetero TV, 5'11", 150, 37. Enjoys ballroom dancing, exercising, golf, yoga. Sincere and considerate. Wishes to socialize with TV's, TS's and women in the Central Florida area.

J. Jessip, P.O. Box 22412, St Petersburg, FL 33742-2412

ROBBI (FL) (#52)

S/W/Hetero TV, 30, 5'10", 130. Long shapely legs, loves high heels, hose girdles. Would like to correspond with all into same interests. Would like to meet with any sisters in south Florida area.

Robbi (FL-1864)

Cynthia S. (FL-1848)

CYNTHIA SILVA (#53) (FL)

SWM, hetero CD, 60, 5'9", 200 lbs.

Member: Tri-Ess

Interests: Working with my computer and amateur radio, VHF mobile, dressing whenever possible. Would like to meet or correspond with other hetero CDs, TVs, and understanding GGs for femme talk, improving my femme personality and appearance, and have photo sessions. Would like photo but not necessary.

Cynthia Silva, Box 13737, Tampa, FL 33681-3737

Rachel C. (GA-2016)

RACHEL CUMMINS (GA) (#53)

Member: Dixie Belles - Chattanooga

I have been enjoying life for 45 years. Have raised three children with the help of an exceptional spouse. When not traveling, Rachel can be found at the Ham radio station, playing weird programmer on one of my 20 odd personal computers or dancing '50s style at the local pub. Rachel and spouse have been on several outings and hope to go on more. I would like to correspond with other sisters and perhaps visit others while on business.

Rachel Cummins, P.O. Box 80294, Conyers, GA 30208-8254

DINA E. STONE (FL) (#53)

Pre-op M-F TS, 38, 5'6", 150. Extremely trustworthy, patient, and methodical; architectural professional. "My reclusive half-life in Florida is burdensome; I need relocation to a less restrictive environment. (Love Atlanta.) I like: honest people of any gender, lifestyle, or race; non-destructive fun, children, art, music, and my femininity.

Dina Stone (FL-1946)

DON AMECHE SCOTT (FL) (#52)

6' tall, pecan tan, 28, 180 lbs. Enjoy bike riding, movies, and walks. Interested in corresponding with TSs and TVs.

Don Ameche Scott, Box 1626, Jacksonville, FL 32201

DIANNE KENDALL (GA) (#54)

Member: Tri-Ess

Life-long TV, willowy, sensuous, very feminine with extensive, fashionable wardrobe including much precious lingerie - mostly pink - and heels for every outfit and occasion. Wants to meet, correspond with and talk to TVs, TSs, and GGs who love and appreciate the feminine as much as I do. Also write stories about boys being sweetly dressed as girls by girls. Let's be girls together in Atlanta or elsewhere.

Dianne Kendall, 3220-A Post Woods Dr, Atlanta, GA 30339

KRISSY (E FL) (#53)

46, 5'10", considered very attractive, progressing into she-male status, very sensitive, caring, neat. Professional. Seeking correspondence and possible meetings with all especially interested in she-males and serious TVs in the Vero Beach area. Please send photo. TV education and sharing of feelings a plus. Someday I would like to form a club & possibly publish a TV publication.

Krissy B. (FL-2067)

MS DALE LARSON (C FL) (#54)

Member: Central FL Sisters (President)

Heterosexual post-op M-F TS. 55, 5'11". Would like to hear from all crossdressers in Florida.

Ms Dale Larson, 11 Westchester Dr., Kissimmee, FL 34744

VANESSA THOMAS (C FL) (#54)

Member: Tri-Ess Orlando, Central FL Sisters

Married, 40, can't dress at home because of older children - but do attend meetings out of area. Getting a better wardrobe and can pass a little. Would like to be fully a woman. Would like to meet other TV/TSs. Will answer all letters.

E.B., P.O. Box 1076, Venice, FL 34284-1076

Robin B. (FL-0611)

ROBIN B. (C FL) (#54)

Member: Tiffany Club, Emerald City

MWM hetero, tall, slender. Interested in most everything. Wife totally despises TV/TS scene. I would love to hear from others who "confessed" to wife after 20 years.

Robin B. (FL-0611)

Dawn Y. (FL-1393)

DAWN YOUNG (E FL) (#54)

MWM hetero TV, 40, 6'1", 170. Loves everything feminine from short skirts to long dresses and heels. Would enjoy meeting and corresponding with others.

Dawn Young, P.O. Box 1355, Vero Beach, FL 32961

ALABAMA - MISSISSIPPI - TENNESSEE - KENTUCKY - ARKANSAS

Barbara B. (MS-1945)

BARBARA (MS) (#53)

Member: Tri-Ess, Crossroads

Attended: Texas Tea Party

MWM 5'11", 170, brown eyes/hair. Love to go out dressed, passable at times - will answer all & look forward to making many new friends.

Barbara (MS-1945)

EVE HYDE (TN) (#52)

Mature professional male, 5'10", 160, very discreet. Has a variety of interests.

Eve H. (TN-1733)

RANDI S. (AR) (#51)

Member: Club Gemini

SWM, Bi-, 5'11", 150. Enjoys everything feminine, dressing, cooking, and photography. Would love to correspond & meet with "boys who would rather be girls", TV's & TS's.

Randi S. (AR-1708)

CRYSTAL DAWN BOYD (TN) (#52)

Pre-op, M-F TS, 30-ish. In prison, going up for parole in January '90; could make release with a little help from you. Especially need your help with work-release and parole plan. Would like very much to settle in Nashville or Memphis area.

If you think would like to help a lady get a new start (and be herself again) or have any helpful information, PLEASE contact: Crystal Dawn Boyd, c/o T.D. Boyd, #101461, Rt. 1, Tumey Center, Only, TN 37140. If returned for any reason, please re-mail to T. D. Boyd at the above address.

Crystal Dawn Boyd (TN-1701)

Samantha T. (TN-0934)

SAMANTHA T. (TN) (#52)

Member: SLGF, Dixie Belles

39+ years young, 5'8", use own long hair, very active in womanly role, deaf, taught how to speak & lip read. Interests: Fashions, arts, collecting anything which attracts my attention, my lovely house. I am hoping to make some friends in Western/Middle Tennessee, Western Kentucky, and neighboring states. I am living close to "land between the lakes" national recreational park. Will answer all letters.

Samantha T., RT 2 Box 103B, Buchanan, TN 38222

STEPHANIE RENEE' (AR) (#53)

5'8", 135, 35, brown hair/eyes. Married; wife understands & is very helpful; still needs a little education on subject. 4 children, 4-19. Would like to meet other sisters from the general area for help & friendship. Have corresponded, but not yet met anyone. Interests include all aspects of being a woman.

S. R. Fowler, Box 1835, Springsdale, AR 72765

ANNE ARMSTRONG (AL) (#54)

Member: Tri-Ess

70, 5'10". Still closeted and would appreciate letters. Will reply quickly.

Anne Armstrong, P.O. Box 7331-A, Birmingham, AL 35253

PATTI (KY) (#54)

MWM, 34. Could be passable with good makeup job. Good figure. Interested in music, dance, psychology, and vegetarian cooking. I would like to correspond with other TV/TSs for friendship, support and information exchange.

Patti (KY-2035)

Linda B. (KY-2001)

LINDA BUTEN (KY) (#54)

Member: Cross-Port

Participant: 'Be All', 'Coming Together'

MWM TV, 37, 6', 180. I enjoy meeting & corresponding with anyone interested. I've been in public for years and my adventurous nature has given me a complete understanding of myself and others. My wife and children know, understand, and love Linda as an extension of my jovial personality. You can usually find me at the IFGE convention & the Be All weekends. I also enjoy dating tall, well-mannered gentlemen who know how to treat a lady to the finer things in life.

Linda B. (KY-2001)

HOLLEY MARIE H. (KY) (#53)

WM Pre-op M-F TS, 5'9", 150, brown hair & eyes. Living full time as a woman. Enjoys art, theater, bicycles, sports cars, travel. Also likes shopping, sexy clothes, and all types of music. Wants to meet & correspond with TV/TSs, and find a romantic gentleman.

Holley Marie H. (KY-2026)

OHIO - INDIANA - MICHIGAN

TONI H. (OH) (#53)

Single, 6'1", 195, 58. Closet executive TV wants to meet same with understanding wife for dressing, dinner and conversation. If you have a private place within 50 miles of Columbus, you have a new friend.

Toni H. (OH-1066)

Lynn S. (OH-1244)

LYNN SHERMAN (OH) (#52)

Single TV, 31 yrs. old, 145 lbs., dark hair, green eyes. "Quiet and educated but a good conversationalist with compatible people. Looking for TVs and women interested in all things feminine. Also enjoy reading and sports."

Lynn Sherman (OH-1244)

DIANA COOPER (OH) (#52)

MWM with TS desires. Work in data processing. Interests: fishing, camping, boating, football, baseball, softball, racquetball, and cooking. "I would like to meet other TVs and especially TSs to help me to determine my own gender. Also need help coming "out" and obtaining hormones (or finding a doctor that'll help).

Diana Cooper, Box 483, West Chester, OH 45069

MICHELLE FRANCES (OH) (#51)

Heterosexual CD, 5'7", 150, 31, brown hair and eyes, married. Enjoy golf, sports, current events, computers, shopping, fashions, and more. I am looking for Ohio correspondence, especially central Ohio. I would like to meet others for dressing, shopping, having fun together, and maybe sharing expenses for a place to dress and store our feminine goods. Will answer all.

Michelle Frances (OH-1809)

MARY (OH) (#51)

Gentle, passive, very shy male TV.

I enjoy cleaning, cooking, shopping, and pleasing a confident woman who enjoys feminine boys.

Would like to hear from any woman who understands and appreciates a young man who likes to dress in feminine fashions. My goal is to be a househusband for a woman who understands my feelings.

Mary (OH-1731)

FRAN (OH) (#52)

"Past 60 - 5'9" - trimming - shy. Wonder if too late to go through this at this age?"

Fran (OH-0848)

Michelle M. (OH-0954)

MICHELLE M. (S.W. OH) (#54)

Member: Paradise, Cross-Port, Tri-Ess.

Hetero married crossdresser, 5'9", 170, educated, friendly. Married 15 years to an "A" wife who accepts and helps. An original organizer of Paradise. Enjoys crossdressing, hi-heels, "girl talk", and picture taking sessions. Needs help to enhance feminine voice. Interested in meeting other married crossdressers in SW Ohio.

Michelle M. (OH-0954)

Arlena S. (IN-1466)

ARLENA MARIA STARCHILD (IN) (#54)

Member: IXE, Cross-Port, IPA

I am a bi-gendered person who wants to correspond with and meet with other sisters to discuss our mutual feminine desires, needs and aspirations. I am a very caring, understanding and loving sister who will help any and all sisters. I am experienced in all aspects of being my feminine personality. I will answer letters very promptly.

Ms Arlena Maria Starchild, P.O. Box 47103, Indianapolis, IN 46247-0103

Dan R. (IN1802)

DAN RILEY (IN) (#52)

Member: IXE, IFGE Staff

Female CD, 39. Sincere, caring individual. Interested in corresponding with other female-to-male CD's/TS's. Enjoys hiking, dancing, T'ai Chi Ch'uan, talking with others and helping others "coming out".

Dan Riley, (IN-9999)

CAMILE M. (OH) (#51)

Very attractive TV, blue eyes, brown hair, 5'10", 159, size 12-14, still in the closet. "Would like to meet and correspond with like-minded sisters. Am open to all. Would welcome any sisters that travel to my area and could travel myself."

Camile M. (OH-1721)

RANDI (MI) (#53)

Member: Crossroads

M/M, 5'11", late 30's, dark hair, brown eyes, educated professional who travels frequently.

Interests: Outdoor activities, music & golf. "I like to talk and meet with others, attractive and experienced in the feminine persuasion, TV and TS."

Randi (MI-1074)

DONNA BALL (MI) (#52)

42, 5'8, size 10, 137, very feminine, more TS than TV. Interests? Dressing, dressing, dressing in conservative but sweet feminine clothes. Would like to meet other TVs/TSs in Detroit suburbs.

Donna Ball, Box 00896, Rochester, MI 48309

Yvonne C. (IN-1009)

YVONNE COOK (IN) (#52)

IFGE Director of Operations, IFGE Board of Directors, Chrmn Finance Committee

Member: Chi Chapter, CrossPort, IXE, TGIC, ETVC.

Participant: Chicago Spring Fling, "Be All", "Coming Together".

Friendly and sincere individual who enjoys all people who are involved in gender issues.

Yvonne C. (IN-1009)

TRACI F. (IN) (#52)

SWM, 34, enjoy shopping, movies, sports, music. "Lifelong TV, just learning to accept who I am, still very much in the closet."

Traci F. (IN-1869)

MICHELLE MICHAELS (IN) (#52)

Married TV, 39, with 3 children. Spent 25+ years in the closet. Active in support groups such as IXE and Renaissance. Struggling with issues of weight control and self-esteem. Now a recovering substance abuser with 8 "clean years. Desire to correspond with TVs and TSs who believe there may be a connection between their gender struggles and chemical substance abuse.

Michelle Michaels, Box 8091, Richmond, IN 47375

CHARLINE D. RIMES (MI) (#52)

SWM, 5'5" tall, Hazel eyes, 35 years old. Participated in the CGA Spring Fling. Interests include spray painting, carpentry, work, bowling, and shopping for clothes.

Charline D. Rimes (MI-1605)

DONNA KAY HILL (MI) (#53)

Member: Crossroads

DWM, pre-op, 6'4", 200 lbs, long brown frosted permed hair, pierced ears. Have started hormones and electrolysis. Am learning to be me and would like to hear from other sisters. A college graduate, employed in civil service, I enjoy fishing, boating, hunting, running, the outdoors, and my two dogs.

Donna Kay Hill (MI-0829)

Jennifer N. (MI-1165)

JENNIFER ANN NELSON (MI) (#52)

Member: Tri-Ess, Crossroads

MWM TV, 5'11", 165, 50, brown hair, blue eyes, college educated professional. "I travel extensively. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet and socialize with our sisters. I love to dance and party, enjoy fine dining, theater, and fashion shopping. I am comfortable in all situations. I love being feminine and living as Jennifer. I also appreciate male escorts in my travels. I would be happy to correspond and share with you."

Jennifer Ann Nelson (MI-1165)

BOBBI J. (MI) (#52)

6'4", 225 lbs. "I'm making the transformation to allow my femme self to surface. I enjoy shopping, girl talk, and travel."

Bobbi J., P.O. Box 2594, Livonia, MI 48150

MARCIA RAYE (MI) (#52)

SW TV, 31. Interests include hiking, tennis, music, and cooking. Enjoy femininity and feminine attire. Also enjoy little girls' and baby clothes. "Have attended regional weekends and would enjoy sharing my experiences with others. I am especially interested in corresponding with other crossdressers who are sealing with telling significant others and being content with their crossdressing."

Marcia Raye (MI-1654)

Patricia J. (OH-1225)

PATRICIA JOHNSON (OH) (#53)

32-year-old CD, WM, 5'10", 175. Love silk, satin, and all things feminine. "Would like to correspond, swap photos, and possibly meet others interests in TS and TV. Letter with photo gets mine and immediate response."

Patricia Johnson, Box 731, Norwalk, OH 44857

Francine A. (MI-1545)

FRANCINE A. (MI) (#51)

Happily married crossdresser, 40, 5'11", 200. Interests: Sailing, downrigger fishing, skiing, VH-1, spending time with my family and of course dressing up with particular interest in heels, hose, and makeup. "I love the feminine feeling crossdressing gives me and really enjoy corresponding. I will answer all letters and will discuss all topics. I promise complete discretion."

Francine A. (MI-1545)

Milesa P. (MI-0976)

MILESA PHAR (MI) (#52)
Member: Crossroads
Married TV. Enjoys photography, good conversations and correspondence. "I am now outreaching as a guest lecturer at universities in Michigan. Also developing network and referrals with counselors."
Milesa Phar, P.O. Box 196, Garden City, MI 48135

TAMARA JEAN MCINTYRE (MI) (#52)
Member: Crossroads
"I am a fun loving, earth redhead who loves to travel. I enjoy fast cars and auto racing, meeting and talking with other sisters. I would enjoy hearing from my sisters around the country. My work allows me to travel and I would enjoy meeting many of my sisters."
Tammi McIntyre, P.O. Box 2261, Monroe, MI 48161

TERRI SUZANNE SCOTT (MI) (#54)
Member: Crossroads
Participant: 'Be All'
Personable lady who enjoys life and grows more confident in her feminine being every day. Life's goal is to become an active member of society as a woman. Actively working towards that goal. Interested in correspondence only with other women who have accepted themselves and are working towards similar goals.
Terri Suzanne Scott, P.O. Box 728, Birmingham, MI 48012

GLORIA LYNN GIBSON (IN) (#54)
Member: Tri-Ess
SWM, tall, aubum hair, hazel eyes. Enjoys camping, hiking, reading, golfing, movies. I'm hoping to meet an understanding and sympathetic woman. Also look forward to meeting and sharing girl talk with 'sisters'. Wish to explore my femininity more deeply. Just coming out and looking for mutual support.
Gloria G. (IN-1480)

RITA O'BRIEN (IN) (#53)
Member: CGS, IXE
Participant: 'Be All', 'Coming Together'
SW M-F TS, 49, 6', 190, brown hair, blue eyes. Strong TS orientation, sharing & caring, willing to reach out to others. Corresponds across the country, loves camping, reading, C&W music, travel. Try to answer all letters.
Rita O. (IN-1183)

Diane F. (OH-1339)

DIANE K. FERGUSON (OH) (#54)
Member: CrossPort, CT View
M-F TS, 5'7", 135, blonde hair, blue eyes, and very fair complexion. Interested in corresponding with anyone considering SRS and other matters of mutual interest. I am a most sincere and honest person, and wish to share experiences and discuss matters important in our lives.
Diane K. Ferguson, P.O. Box 4617, Maineville, OH 45039-4617

RHONDA JEAN ECK (OH) (#53)
MWM, 37, 5'11", brown hair, blue eyes, has crossdressed since 16, but still in closet. Interests: golf, reading, crossdressing (naturally). Looking for open, honest communication with other sisters to provide mutual support.
Miss Rhonda Jean Eck, P.O. Box 292844, Kettering, OH 45429

DEE R. (MI) (#53)
WM, 40, 5'9", brown hair, blue eyes. Collects military history (books and pamphlets), stupid movies, and Japanimation (cartoons).
Dee R. (MI-1916)

MICHELLE ANTHONY (OH) (#54)
5'9", 159, dark hair & eyes. Enjoys music, dancing. Recently came into my own as a TV, but have been dressing for years. I'm really a novice looking for exchange correspondence, pictures and to join a group. Would like to meet TV/TSs in Ohio area. Reply w/photo to get mine.
Michelle Anthony, P.O. Box 322442, Columbus, OH 43232

Amanda L. (OH-1670)

AMANDA LYNN (OH) (#51)
Member: Paradise Club
SWM Bi-TV, still in closet and need friends. Would especially like female to help and build a lasting relationship. I smoke and am a social drinker. I bowl, golf, and enjoy the quietness of fishing. I am interested in hormone treatment. Enjoy all fem clothing, but get into looking slutty (sorry). PLEASE, no photo collectors. Only sincere people need to reply.
Amanda L. (OH-1670)

Cher (OH-2083)

CHER (OH) (#54)
40's, 150, 5'10", sense of humor, intelligent, likes good food & wines.
Cher (OH-2083)

LUANNIA RUNNELS (MI) (#53)
Pre-op M-F TS, 6'4", 160, born 8/7/57, brown hair, blue eyes. Interested in metaphysics, medicine, Jungian psychology, astrology. I've been completely aware of the nature of my problem for some time now, and would like to help others to better understand the more esoteric aspects of transsexualism - it is <u>not</u> an accident!!!
Luannia R. (MI-2026)

DEBORAH ANNE K. (IN) (#53)

Member: IXE

MWM TV, 48, 5'9", 150. Inexperienced but learning how to present my other self. Need training on makeup, care of wigs. Limited travel due to job, wish to meet others for support.

A. Kinsey, P.O. Box 550, Roanoke, IN 46783

Jeaninne D. (IN-2100)

JEANINNE D. (IN) (#53)

Member: Cross-Port, IXE

Participant: 'Be All'

Sensitive and caring person, good education. Somewhat macho background and occupation makes crossdressing even more delightful. Enjoys music, sports, humor, travel, dancing, occasional shopping, and most of all crossdressing. I crossdress for the sheer fun, relaxation and delight of it all. Feel more lighthearted, gentle and fun-loving when 'en femme'. No guilt feelings at all. Enjoy meeting and corresponding with other CD's. Photo appreciated.

Jeaninne D. (IN-2100)

ILLINOIS

KIMBERLY ANDERSON (IL) (#52)

5'7", 115, lt brown hair, blue eyes.

Interests: Baseball, football, dining out (although I love to cook), shopping, visiting historical places, sunbathing.

"Am very tired of being in this closet. Need help with everything! Would like to meet TV-TS's in Chicago area who are active in the Community."

Kimberly A. (IL-1669)

JENNIFER SUMMERS (IL) (#53)

Member: Chi Chapter

Divorced, 38, 5'9", blue eyes, professional, self-employed. Enjoys reading, bicycling, classical music, and outings. I would like to explore new friendships as a woman.

Jennifer Summers, Box 263, 606 West Barry, Chicago, IL 60657

Eve B. (IL-0523)

EVE B. (IL) (#52)

IFGE Board of Directors, Chrprsn Educational Resources Committee

Member: Chi Chapter, Outreach, CGS

Participant: Fantasia Fair, 'Be All', 'Coming Together'

Awards: Miss DREAM '77 & '80, FF Miss Congeniality, FF Miss Best Dressed, Miss Fantasia Fair

Eve is an elegant fun-loving girl who 'exists' 2-3 days a week. Enjoys shopping, dining out, and traveling the Mid-West and West. Does many presentations with Naomi O. (IL) before professional and college audiences to help 'educate' on our lifestyle. Has appeared on television in Cleveland, Boston, Philadelphia, and Minneapolis. Eve plays golf and tennis.

Eve B. (IL-0523)

Naomi O. (IL-0257)

NAOMI O. (IL) (#51)

IFGE Board of Directors, Chrprsn Legal & By-Laws Committee

Member: Chi Chapter (President) Crossroads, Paradise, Outreach.

Participant: Fantasia Fair, "Be All", 'Coming Together'

Awards: Miss Fantasia Fair, Miss Congeniality

A Chicago area attorney who loves the better things in life. Am personable and understanding. Enjoy travel, photography, food (still can't stand beets or Brussels sprouts), fashion and jewelry (it's the gypsy in my soul). Active in mid-west crossdressing activities; have appeared on radio and television in Chicago, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Boston, Philadelphia, and Minneapolis.

Naomi O., Box 342, Chicago, IL 60690

Gloria W. (IL-0613)

GLORIA WRIGHT (IL) (#53)

Member: Tri-Ess (VP Chi-Chapter), CGS

Participant: "Be-All" IFGE Conventions, Holiday En Femme

Awards: 1st Runner-Up Miss CGS 1988, 1st Runner-Up Miss Windy City GGA.

Publish: *The Crossdresser's Bureau* and *Swanstory* periodicals.

Heterosexual TV, 36, 5'3, passable, fun loving, hard working. Enjoy singing, dancing, jogging, photography, karate, science, and writing. I love correspondence, but all of the above stuff has stifled my response time.

G. Wright, Box 172, Gumee, IL 60031

JENNIFER B. (IL) (#53)

Member: CGS, Chi Chapter Tri-Ess

Participant: Fantasia Fair

Awards: FF Miss Best Dressed, FF Miss Femininity

SWM TV, mid-50s. I look great and feel great about being Jennifer.

Jennifer B. (IL-2074)

Barbara B. (IL-1980)

BARBARA DIANE B. (IL) (#54)

Member: Chi Chapter

Participant: Holiday En Femme

Hetero TV, 28, 5'10", 143, contemporary woman of the '90s. Barbara is a very caring, wonderful person. Enjoys photography, fishing, and dancing. Will try and answer all who write.

B.D. Beers, P.O. Box 2002, Des Plaines, IL 60017

TERESA BEATRICE K. (IL) (#53)

SWM, late 30s, 6'+. Super tech: programmer, chess player, sci-fi. I am a closet TV trying to decide if I should come out of the closet or if my PC is enough.

Teresa K. (IL-1969)

DEBBIE WOLF (IL) (#53)

43, 5'10", 170, married. Enjoys hiking, photography, camping, as well as crossdressing and my feminine side. Would like to hear from other married TV's about family interaction with feminine self.

Debbie W. (IL-1978)

WISCONSIN - MINNESOTA - NO. DAKOTA - SO. DAKOTA - MONTANA

MARTHA M. (WI) (#51)

TV, 5'6", 36, 150. Enjoys crossdressing, camping, gardening, classical music, woodworking. "I have only recently come to accept that I am a TV. Still pretty much in the closet. Have a lot to learn. If you can help, drop me a note."

Martha M. (WI-1459)

Denise P. (MN-1444)

DENISE P. (MN) (#51)

MWM TS, 5'11", 200, 39, college degree, business professional. "Have made the decision for surgery, and have been accepted into the pre-surgery group at the University of Minnesota. My wife is trying to understand, and I have advised my employer who is willing to let me keep my job. I am looking for help from sisters in support before and after the surgery. I'm just coming out of the closet and think it feels great! Will answer all."

Denise P., c/o DVP, P.O. Box 2667, Minneapolis, MN 55402

Linda A. (WI-0529)

LINDA LEE ATHIE (WI) (#52)

5'7", blue eyes, brown hair or whatever color wig I decide to ware, weight 165 to 175 lbs., born August 1949. Interests: All things feminine (history of WW2) (war gaming) and becoming a woman, I am a TS and photography. "I wish to correspond with any one who wish to write to me, and to contact those to whom I have written to in the past. I wish correspondence no personal meetings. I do answer all."

Linda Lee Athie, Box 15784, Milwaukee, WI 53215

Michelle (MN-1911)

MICHELLE (MN) (#53)

MWM CD, 6'2", 185, brown hair, brown eyes, friendly. Coming out of the closet with a supportive wife. I would like to meet and correspond with crossdressers in northern MN and throughout the country.

Michelle (MN-1911)

VANESSA S. (MN) (#52)

5'11", 160, brown hair & eyes, working on being passable. "I'm a happily married hetero CD with a beautiful, loving, and supportive wife. We're both devout Christians and are interested in helping others if we can. I love my femininity and what it represents.

Vanessa S., Box 11771, St. Paul, MN 55111-0771

REGINA (MN) (#53)

41, 5'8 1/2, 142. White, gender-conflicted, closet TV, 3rd yr. law student. "I love classical music and Celtic, English, and European ballads of 19th/early 20th century. Also history, theology, poetry, and literature. Love elegant, classical femme attire; need help with makeup. Political libertarian, cultural conservative."

K. Schwartz, 1166 Hewitt Avenue #305, St. Paul, MN 55104

MARY N. (MN) (#51)

Hetero TV, 54, 5'8", 145, happily married.

Interests: Woodwork, camping, fishing, travel. "Would like very much to meet other TV's with understanding wives, who could help my wife to understand."

Mary N. (MN-1740)

Wendy S. (MN-2068)

WENDY St. CROIX (MN) (#54)

Bi TV, 38, 5'9", 145. I am looking for a special person who is honest, loving, and tender to share our special feelings. I will write to everyone who sends an honest letter and photo. I could also use some help with makeup and dressing. I travel a little, so please write from anywhere.

Wendy St. Croix, P.O. Box 1161, St Paul, MN 55101

KATHERINE H. (MN) (#52)

Member: CLCC, MFGE

SWM TV, mid 30s, 5'10", strawberry blonde, feminine, attractive, passes easily, lifelong TV, musician, executive. Loves movies, music, plays, clothes, good food, golf, tennis, travel, books, conversation. I am interested in meeting other TV/TSs. Love to date as girl or guy. Travel all over U.S.

Katherine H. (MN-1994)

JENNIFER SHANNON HOLLEY (MN) (#52)

Member: CLCC

TS, 5'7", 130, 18, non-smoker. "I look beautiful in my feminine wardrobe. Enjoy fashion magazines, music, skiing, and sports. Just out of the closet. I would like to meet other TSs & TVs for friendship and correspondence. Also interested in females for the same. I will do light travel in MN, N. IA, and W. WI.

Jennifer Holley, c/o Tim Potter, P.O. Box 26263, Minneapolis, MN 55426

MISSOURI - IOWA - NEBRASKA - KANSAS

RANDI D. (MO) (#51)

Member: SLGF, Chi Chapter

MWM hetero TV, 6'6", 180, supportive wife. "I enjoy pictures, and am trying to use a computer. I like to go out dressed. Constantly trying to pass better."

Randi D. (MO-1013)

Angela J. (MO-1162)

ANGELA JOHNSON (MO) (#53)

Member: St Louis Gateway Femmes

"My interests are Photography, softball, bowling, weight training. I would like to hear from all TVs, TSs, crossdressers & sympathetic women to write and share experiences and problems."

Angela Johnson (MO-1162)

Karen C. (IA-1170)

KAREN CASEY (IA) (#53)

Member: Tri-Ess, Iowa Artistry

MWM, 47, 6'3", 210 lbs, married 21 yrs, senior systems analyst.

Interests: Photography, cooking, reading, music and chess. I hope to correspond with some new interesting sisters, perhaps develop some lifetime friendships.

Karen Casey, P.O. Box 7224, Grand Station, Des Moines, IA 50309

MARIE (KS) (#51)

Member: Tri Ess

MWM hetero TV, masters degree, 37, 6'1", 165, blue eyes, brown hair. Interests: Guitar, photography, computers, collecting clothes! "Would like to correspond with other TVs. Have a loving & supportive wife who would like to correspond with other wives. Enjoy getting out as girlfriends."

Marie (KS-1549)

Margaret (NE-1589)

MARGARET (NE) (#52)

5'7", 210#, just coming out other than home. Married, 4 children, ages 24 to 9. Interests: Golf, swimming, meeting often with our Group. "I hope to attend a meeting in Chicago in Fall if things work out. I work for the Railroad as a brakeman."

Margaret (NE-1589)

Juday A. (NE-1179)

JUDY ADAMS (NE) (#53)

Member: Tri Ess, River City

Participant: 'Be All '86,'88, P-town Outing '86.

DWM, 5'8, 140. Interests: Music, computers, woodworking, TV psychology, recruiting

new sisters to our Midwest group, helping new sisters, integrating female self into male side. Would like to hear from sisters, especially from those within 250 miles of Omaha. I love femininity and want to learn as much as I can about it.

Judy Adams, Box 1305, Belleview, NE 68005 (NE-1179)

Jane N. (KS-0694)

JANE NANCE (KS) (#52)

M-F TS, late 50's, 5'7", 140, masters degree, living as a woman 60% of time. Very supportive wife. Interests: Spending time in public as a female, especially with spouse. Also, symphonic music, theatre, movies, & dinners. I'm TS, but committed to my heterosexual marital relationship. Tend to be a fairly private person, with minimal personal meetings with others. As time permits, willing to share my experiences with others. Dedicated to educating others about crossdressing.

Ms Jane Nance, P.O. Box 67088, Topeka, KS 66667-9988

Beverly W. (IA-1230)

BEVERLY WAYNE (IA) (#53)

Member: Iowa Artistry (President), Tri-Ess

Participant: Holiday En Femme, 'Be All'

MWM, 37, 5'10", married to accepting wife. Advertising professional. Love going out to dinner, movies, dancing, TV parties, meeting others, helping newcomers understand and come to terms with crossdressing. Have active group, Iowa Artistry.

Beverly Wayne, P.O. Box 75, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

Alisha P. (IA-2071)

ALISHA P. (IA) (#53)

Married hetero TV, late 30s, 6', 146, blue eyes, 2 children. Been a crossdresser for 30 years but still in the closet. Love satin and lace, corsets, formal wear and bridal. Sew and design my own creations. Pics available.

Alisha P. (IA-2071)

DEBRA ANN (NE) (#52)

MWM 44, 6'2", 205 lbs., blonde hair, blue eyes. Interests include bicycle riding, jazz and classical music, railroads, and the outdoors. "I have a fairly understanding wife. I would like to get more involved in CD; just do it occasionally and don't have any clothes that fit yet."

Debra Ann (NE-1655)

DEE KAY (NE) (#52)

5'9", 150, 39, married, hetero, monogamous. Interests: Politics, world affairs, Sci Fi, clothes. "I'm fun loving and a good listener. I would like to correspond with and meet others in the eastern Ne, W. IA, and KC area. Totally discreet and others must be also.

Dee Kay (NE-1583)

Barbara C. (MO-1913)

BARBARA ANN CHRISTENSEN (MO) (#53)

33, 6', and overweight. Brown hair and blue eyes. Enjoys photography, reading, writing. Would like to correspond with other TVs and CDs. Would very much like to become passable in public.

Barbara Ann C. (MO-1913)

MARCIE H. (NE) (#53)

Single, pre-op M-F TS, 27, 6'4, 175, friendly but shy. Enjoy space, science fiction, astronomy, and everything having to do with learning to live as a woman. "I've stopped denying my femininity. I would love to make friends with others who have gone through this. We could share some insights and maybe a little moral support."

Marcie H. (NE-1938)

JAN G. (KS) (#54)

Semi-passable on a dark night. Would enjoy corresponding with sisters that have like interests.

J. Gladfelter, P.O. Box 47353, Wichita, KS 67201

BERNICE M. (MO) (#53)

TS/TV, 40s, 5'9", 130, brown hair & eyes, shy, single, long hair. Lives alone in the country, wears only female clothes even as a male. Have nearly finished electrolysis. Enjoy playing guitar, gardening, collecting, corresponding with other TV/TSs.

Bernice M. (MO-2018)

KELLY SHIN (KS) (#53)

Married oriental male, mid-30s, 5'9", 150, size 14, fairly passable. Professional busi-

nessman. Enjoys golf, music, guitar, fashion, all things feminine, and being Kelly. Cannot get out dressed as often as I would like. Can only dress on business trips. Would love to exchange stories & correspond. Photo appreciated, will answer all w/photo.

Kelly S. (KS-1966)

Janet B. IA-2091)

JANET BAKER (IA) (#53)

Member: Iowa Artistry

MWM, 39, 175, 5'11", college grad, urbane, coarse. Enjoys ceramics, gardening, hiking, art, erotica. Would like new friends for dressing, movies, conversation, and the usual mundanities.

D.R., P.O. Box 334, Ankewy, IA 50021

LOUISIANA - TEXAS - OKLAHOMA

CHARLENE PITRE (LA) (#52)

Size 16, 5'8", 58, 155; blue eyes, brown hair. Recently widowed; now stepping out of that dark closet. I am TS and have this wonderful feeling about myself. Would like to share it with the right person.

Charlene Pitre (LA-1922)

MARY FRANCES WILLIAMS (TX) (#51)

Member: Boulton & Park

MWM TV, 5'10", eyes of blue, all other figures begin with 4. Married, wife shares interest and clothes. Enjoys attending meetings, writing editorials and stories, avoiding writing letters, food and clothing. Nominee for worst correspondent of the year for the last four years. Jacqueline Allen won!

Mary Frances Williams, P.O. Box 169672, San Antonio, TX 78280-3272

MARY LEE (TX) (#52)

5'9", 160, grey eyes, grey/blonde hair, slim legs, married; wife accepts me as I am. Interests: Crossdressing, reading, history, hiking. "I first cross dressed as age 4. Intermittent episodes throughout 20 yr. military career. I was a closet dresser until 7 months ago. I'm anxious to help educate the public.)

Mary Lee, Box 532535, Grand Prairie, TX, 75053-2535

Michelle R. (LA-1827)

MICHELLE RYAN (LA) (#52)

Member: Tri-Ess

MWM 5'8", 155, 35 yrs old, college educated. Enjoy all things feminine. Just out of the closet and really enjoying it. Married to a very understanding and accepting woman. Would like to write other TVs and possibly meet (especially couples).

Michelle Ryan, P.O. Box 78126, Baton Rouge, LA 70837

Jayne M. (LA-1176)

JAYNE MILLS (LA) (#53)

Member: Tri-Delta-Chi, Salmacis

Hetero TV, 40, living in New Orleans area. New to the world and need help from GGs, TVs, and TSs learning how to improve my transformation. Been dressing for years; out of the closet 3 years.

Jayne Mills (LA-1176)

Lee M. (LA-1618)

LEE M. (LA) (#52)

Member: Tri Delta Chi

White male married to understanding and supportive wife. Member of Board of Directors of Tri Delta Chi chapter of Tri-Ess, now forming in the New Orleans area. Will respond to all correspondence.

Lee M., c/o Tri Delta Chi, P.O. Box 870213, New Orleans, LA 70187-1300

BETTE LEE JOHNSON (TX) (#52)

IFGE Board of Directors, Chrmn Programs Committee, 'Coming Together' Staff

Member: Dallas Chapter Tri Ess

Attractive TV, 50's, sensitive, caring, outgoing, and very comfortable in the joys of being a woman. "I enjoy the pleasures of being dressed and feeling feminine, and am told I pass well. Enjoy parties and socials with other TV ladies, and being in public en-femme (with discretion). Am now dedicated to serving 'our' world and in particular, helping those who are just starting to come out, and who may need help and advice."

Bette J. (TX-0543)

MICHELLE H. (TX) (#52)

Member: Boulton & Park, Tri-Ess (Tau Chi), ETVC.

6'2", 185, brown eyes and hair. Enjoys golf, swimming & beaching, travel, shopping,

correspondence. Lives in the Houston TX area & travels the state of Texas regularly.

Michelle H. (TX-1446)

Lisa H. (LA1717)

LISA HART (LA) (#52)

SWM hetero TV, 35, slim athletic build. Successful, attractive male professional. "Would like to meet attractive females who like men who enjoy crossdressing. I've never been out and about as a female, but the idea is appealing. Will respond promptly to potential femme friends, especially in the New Orleans area.

Lisa H. (LA-1717)

Janice R. 0567)

JANICE HILARY RUPARD (TX) (#52)

IFGE Board of Directors (Alt)

Member: Boulton & Park (co-founder), Outreach

MWM TG, 5'9", 160, size 18, 60 going on 40. Sensitive, with a gentle, caring nature. Interests: Classical music, playing 'big band' and jazz (alto and bari sax), photography and everything feminine. "Since I retired, living alone, I've worked very hard developing my femininity. Now, Janice goes most everywhere and does everything. I shop, work, travel by air or by highway - you name it. I'm not the fastest respondent, but I always answer all. Your photo will be enjoyed."

Janice Rupard, P.O. Box 63112, Wetmore, TX 78163

Jane F. (TX-1250)

JANE ELLEN FAIRFAX (TX) (#53)

Attendee: Holiday En Femme '85 - '88

President, Tau Chi Chapter, '88 - '89

41, 6'2", 210, chestnut hair, green eyes, professional. "Jane's interests include church work, duplicate bridge, choral singing, spectator sports, and pre-40's music. She is also an amateur mineralogist, medieval historian, and an avid Sherlock Holmsian. She and her actively supportive wife would like to correspond with other couples.

Jane Ellen (TX-1250)

TINA MARIE STRICKLAND (TX) (#52)

Stand a short 6'2" tall and of dominating proportions being the age of 33 for the past 3 years. Enjoy amateur radio, bicycling, building custom show cars and crossdressing.

Tina Marie Strickland (TX-1788)

KIM KELLY (W. TX) (#52)

Bi-TV, 5'8", 170. Enjoys spectator sports, TVism, travel. Lived in Puerto Rico 20 yrs. Can entertain or travel. Would like to join TV group in El Paso area. Will answer all letters ASAP.

C.R. Kelly, P.O. Box 12113, El Paso, TX 79913

NANCY COLE (TX) (#53)

5'9", 165 lbs., 35 yrs. old W/M

Nancy Cole (TX-1795)

MICHELLE T. (TX) (#52)

Member: Tri-Ess

Attendee: Chicago Holiday En Femme

Tall (6'3") TV, 40, 180#. Interests: clothes, computers, tennis, games of all kinds. Love to meet friends of all kinds but would especially like to meet an understanding female who would help guide me to become a better "woman".

Michelle T., Box 5933, Ft. Hood, TX 76544

Rene F. (TX-0989)

RENE' FENNER (TX) (#52)

Member: Tri-Ess, GCTVC, CHIC, Boulton & Park

Participant: 'Coming Together', Texas 'T' Party, Fantastic Adventure W/E

MWM, 58, 6'1", 200. Go to restaurants and travel frequently as Rene'. Wife knows but is not approving. Always trying to improve feminine image. Also enjoy amateur radio and fishing. Will answer any correspondence received.

R. Fenner, 100H, 10502 Telephone Rd, Houston, TX 77075

STEFANIE (TX) (#53)

W/M, 5'6", 140, brown hair/eyes, olive complexion. "Looking for friends; need someone to have a little girl talk. Still in closet, but wants to come, need advice and help. Will answer all who write."

RSM, Box 58170, Suite 1041, Houston, TX 77258

JILL (TX) (#53)

5'10", single, white, 26. Well educated, discreet. Recently moved to Texas from Nashville, TN. Looking for new friends. Interested in meeting attractive TVs/TSs. Travel South Texas.

Jill (TX-2043)

Leigh Anne K. (TX-1971)

LEIGH ANNE KOSLEY (TX) (#53)

41, 6'2", 210, hazel eyes, size 18 dress and 14 shoe. Active military. Enjoys theater, model railroad, music, aerobics and racquetball. Interested in corresponding with others of the same interest. Would also like to meet a woman who would like to share the same likes and life.

Leigh Anne K. (TX-1971)

PAULA J. JOHNSON (OK) (#52)

SWM TV, 5'8", 30s, brown hair, blue eyes. Interests: Music, computers, photography, dancing, all things to do with crossdressing. "Will correspond and exchange photos with everyone. Am currently trying to establish a TV/TS support group or social group. Seeking help and contact with people in the OK area.

Paula J. (OK-1620)

STEPHANIE SMITH (TX) (#53)

5'7", blue eyes, brown hair, 32, 150. Enjoy chess, skiing (water/snow), ham radio, and meeting people with similar situations. "I'm a genetic male who has from earliest memory been fundamentally female. Plan to seek SRS; appreciate any assistance in dealing with this issue.

Stephanie Smith (TX-1870)

FRANK HAND (TX) (#52)

SWM, 27, 5'8", 175 lbs., brown hair, brown eyes. Interests include sports, travelling, listening to music, reading, and quiet evenings at home. "I am interested in corresponding and possibly meeting an attractive TV or TS. No age or race preference. All replies answered."

Frank Hand (TX-1598)

Joanne H. (TX-2081)

JOANNE HARLESS (TX) (#53)

5'10", medium build, nice looking in either gender, athletic. I adore the soft & gentle aspects of femininity. I especially love feeling feminine. I would like to know others with similar interests. A friend or two in this would be all I could ask.

JoAnne Harless, P.O. Box 515205, Dallas, TX 75251

JACQUELINE ANNE ALLEN (TX) (#53)

Member: Boulton & Park

Strawberry blonde, 5'9", 77Kg (I think - anything to avoid the fact!), brown eyes. Interests: cars, jazz & classical music, politics, westerns, kids. "When I first started dealing with national organizations I intended to become a good correspondent. Result - failure! I would like to hear from you, though."

Jacqueline Anne Allen, Box 6948, San Antonio, TX 78209

JOANNE RUSSELL (OK) (#52)

TS, 35, 145, 5'7", black hair, hazel eyes, shy.

Interested in computers, woodworking, games. Could pass with a little help. Would love to be able to go shopping, dine out, and any feminine activity. Have never met or talked to a TS or TV. Will answer any letter.

JoAnne R. (OK-1550)

PATTY MARLANE (OK) (#51)

MWM hetero TV, 51, 5'7", with desire to pass but needs encouragement & help. Enjoys music, drama, sports & fashions, enforced crossdressing. "Would like to correspond with someone with like interest & would appreciate source for material fact or fiction on enforced crossdressing."

Patty M. (OK-1402)

ELIZABETH (OK) (#52)

SWM, 36, 6'1", 210, size 20. Interested in finding persons for support and to share in the fun of becoming a woman. Like to go out on the town for dinner, dancing, shopping, and just being a woman everyday. Looking for women to share in the fun.

Elizabeth (OK-1830)

SAMANTHA W. (TX) (#53)

IFGE Board of Directors

Member: Delta Omega

Participant: Dream, Fantasia Fair, Be-All, Shangri-La, Coming Together.

Married TV, 5'1", size 20, age 50, active in Dallas area crossdressers group. Enjoy my children and travelling in my RV in addition to my crossdressing. A sporadic correspondent.

Samantha W. (TX-0779)

MONIQUE (TX) (#53)

Age 53. I'm a life-long TV who has never met another TV or "passed" in public.

Monique (TX-1944)

SIGRID W. (TX) (#54)

Over 55, 5'10", brunette hair. Have attended events where both TVs and TSs were present. Will answer all intelligent letters from TSs and TVs on things of common interest.

Sigrid W. (TX-1248)

GINNY ALLISON (TX) (#54)

Member: Boulton & Park, Tri-Ess

Participant: Texas 'T' Party

Since moving to Texas I've enjoyed getting out of the closet and meeting more & more sisters. I would like to correspond & meet with more.

Ginny A. (TX-1223)

GINA FRANCAIS (OK) (#54)

SWM CD, 35, 6', 148, friendly but shy. Would like to start friendship with other TV/TS. Enjoy listening to music, riding bikes. Need advice, will correspond. Wish to join organization in Oklahoma.

G. Loveland, P.O. Box 702044, Tulsa, OK 74170-2044

REHA ELLIS (TX) (#54)

Member: Heart of Texas TV

Participant: Fantastic Adventure Houston

SWM life long CD, 5'11", 155, 30's. Enjoy going public, still learning. MS degree, loves to talk about feelings and the adventurous Reha. Enjoy correspondence with all TVs & TSs, and showing a girl around Austin. Please Write.

Reha E. (TX-2109)

CHERYL CLARK (TX) (#53)

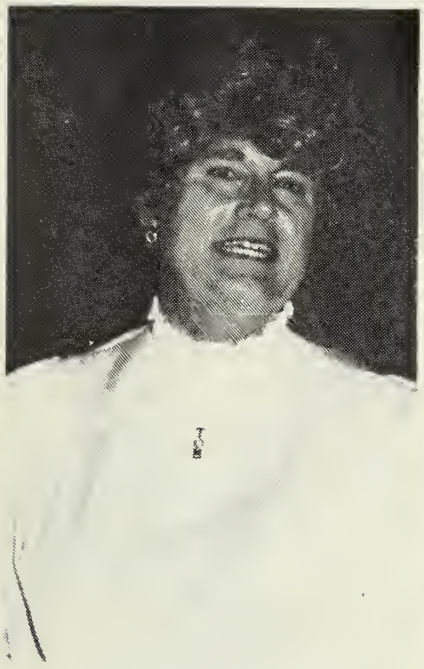
Member: Boulton & Park, Heart of Texas TV

Married heterosexual CD, 5'8", 147, 40's, blue eyes, blond hair. Enjoys sport cars, guitar playing, pleasant & honest people.

C. Clark, P.O. Box 373, Manchaca, TX 78652 (512) 892-6454 (leave message for Cheryl Clark)

COLORADO - UTAH - WYOMING - IDAHO

A. THOMAS ELLIOTT, JR. (CO) (#53)
I need to learn more about the legal and psychological issues associated with crossdressing and transsexualism.
A. Thomas Elliott, Jr. (CO-1914)



Tommie F. (WY-1158)

TOMMIE FRYE (WY) (#53)
Member: Tri-Ess (Delta)
Participant: Be-All
Single TV, 49, 6'0, 38B-33-39 figure. Enjoy lingerie, heels and hose, particularly panties and bras. Also photography, historical and model railroading, and military history. Would like to meet, correspond, and exchange photos worldwide. I will answer all.
Tommie F. (WY-1158)

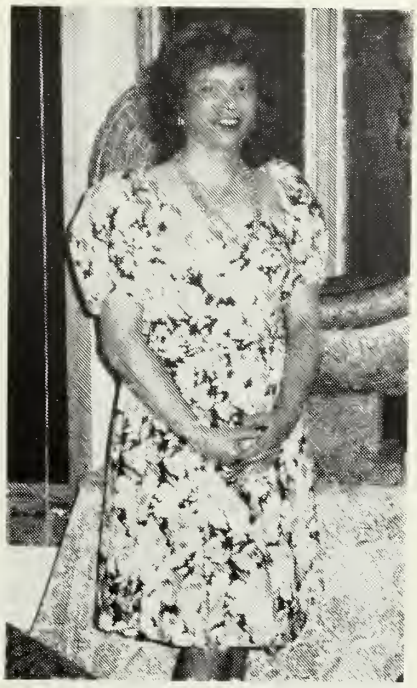
JEAN C. (WY) (#51)
Single female, 29. Enjoys gardening, writing,
reading, cats. "Would be willing to help crossdressers in whatever way I can. Strongly feel that people should have a right to dress and look the way they want. I am not a CD myself, but maybe I can offer some kind of support for all you wonderful people out there, even if it's just through a letter."
Jean C. (WY-1551)

KINNY LEE S. (ID) (#53)
Participant: '88 Fantasia Fair.
59, 6', 200, lifelong TV. Interests include rebuilding planes, cars, etc., travel, and crossdressing. "I have been alone for too long. It was refreshing to talk with another real live TV."
Kinny Lee S. (ID-1800)

CHARLENE S. (WY) (#53)
5'8", 160, 55, single. I live on a small ranch, love outdoors, and crossdressing. I can travel and am looking forward to beautiful people. Will answer all letters and pictures.
Charlene S. (WY-2069)

DAVI B. (ID) (#53)
CD that loves to shop for clothes. Going to a mall is the best part of my week. I also skate. Looking for some pen pals.
Davi B. (ID-2078)

ARIZONA - NEW MEXICO - NEVADA



Wendi P, (AZ-1072)

WENDI DANIELLE PIERCE (AZ) (#53)
IFGE Chairman of the Board of Directors
Member: A Rose
Participant: "Coming Together", "Be All", Fantasia Fair, Texas T-Party
Single post-op TS, 5'8", 150, 40. Interests: Travel, camping, writing, popular music, photography, computers, cooking, shopping, public speaking and exploring beautiful Arizona. Co-founder of 'A Rose', public speaker at university level on crossdressing and transgender issues, very active in TV/TS Community. I welcome correspondence from all sincere individuals although I cannot promise a quick response. My motto is "GO FOR IT", and I have!
Wendi Danielle P., c/o A Rose, P.O. Box 4351, Scottsdale, AZ 85261

GEORGIA B. (AZ) (#52)
5'6", 145, 37, brown hair, hazel eyes. Would like to correspond with other TS's in Arizona and California.
Georgia B. (AZ-1012)

JOHN S. (NV) (#51)
WM non-crossdresser, 5'10", 170, dark hair, brown eyes, very versatile, professional. Enjoys aerobics, weight-lifting, outdoor activities, traveling, nice restaurants, etc. "Beautiful TV/TS let me take part in your exciting feminine world so that we both can enrich our lives. Please reply with photo."
John S. (NV-1483)

Jennifer (AZ-1056)

JENNIFER (AZ) (#53)
DWM, 6', 170 lbs, 44, warm, sharing and caring.
Interests: Enjoys good food, music, cuddling, and dressing to the max. Good wardrobe - extensive lingerie, heels, wigs, makeup, etc. Would like to meet other TVs or TSs.
Jennifer (AZ-1056)

Donna M. (NM-1734)

DONNA E. MOBILE (NM) (#52)

Member: Fiesta Chapter (President)

SWM, 41, 5'10", 150, widower. Fanatic skier/ski racer (10 hdcp). Hobbies include building scale model aircraft, photography, breaking fingernails. Widely traveled, college educated, former military (combat correspondent). Currently working as freelance audio/video/TV producer (no jokes please). Passable in public if it's dark and foggy. Would love to meet or correspond with TV/TC/TSs, can travel anywhere I can reach on a thermos of gas and a tankful of coffee. Promise a reply to all letters. Can't promise to be interesting.

Donna M. (NM-1734)

Terri D. (NV-0406)

TERRI D. (NV) (#53)

Member: Tri-Ess

Participant: DREAM, Pajaro Dunes

60, 5'11", 170, auburn hair & gray eyes. History buff. Enjoys old books, and flying, including ultra lights. Also into old coins.

T. Downs, P.O. Box 4116, N. Las Vegas, NV 89030

Condy W. AZ-1991)

CINDY (AZ) (53)

SWM CD, looking for friendship and support from other crossdressers.

Cindy (AZ-1991)

MARIE DAVIS (AZ) (#54)

Member: A Rose

M-F TS, single, 30ish. Interests: Amateur radio/television. I am a very sensitive person that cares for people and feels deep hurt when my "being" disturbs them. I became a woman long before I learned to dress. If this describes you, or you are a sensitive GG, please drop a line.

Marie D. (AZ-2097)

DANA TODD (NM) (#53)

36, 5'8", 150, light brown hair, light blue eyes. New to therapy, TV for 24 years, probable TS. would like to meet other TV/TSs in Albuquerque area, or within 250 miles. Would like to start TV/TS support group in NM.

Dana T. (NM-2008)

CALIFORNIA

Ren`ee C. (CA-0644)

REN'EE CHEVALIER (S. CA) (#53)

IFGE Board of Directors, "Coming Together" Staff

Participant: P-Town WSG Outing, Wine Country Weekend, 'Coming Together'

Awards: The MSL Service Award

MWM, 5'9, 150, passable, and a supporter and hard worker on gender issues. Interests: varied, including photography and carpentry. "I enjoy helping others and bringing newcomers out into the community."

Ren'ee Chevalier (CA-0644)

DENISE (CA) (#53)

Member: IFGE (new)

I have been a TV all my life. I enjoy dressing a lot. Am 6' tall, married (wife doesn't like it), basically just a nice guy. I want to correspond with and hopefully meet other TVs. It would be nice to find a place where I could dress and socialize without having to spend lots of money on motel rooms all the time.

Denise (CA-1808)

Kathie E. (CA-1125)

KATHIE E. (CA) (#53)

5'11" WM, married, closeted. "I enjoy jazz, classical music, dressing in stockings and heels, looking to help with dressing and feminization."

Kathie E. (CA-1125)

Wendy P. (CA0390)

WENDY PARKER (CA) (#53)

SWM, TV/TG, 30's, 5'9", 145, educated, whimsical, healthy, and fun. Would like to explore role reversal with G.G. looking for a male "wife" for best of both worlds. "I would like to extend my circle of friend and gentle souls who are supportive of "free femme spirits" and new lifestyles.

Wendy Parker, 3960 Laurel Canyon Blvd #228, Los Angeles, CA 91604

TAMARA VELARDE (CA) (#53)

Member: Tri-Ess

Hetero, 37, 5'7". "I am interested in meeting other TVs in the San Francisco area outings and correspondence. I will attempt to answer all correspondence."

Tamara Velarde (CA-0656)

Roxie H.

ROXIE HOROWITZ (S. CA) (#52)

Member: Tri-Ess, PPOC

SWM TV, 40, 5'8", 165. I dress up for club meetings and Female Impersonator shows; have done stand-up comedy as Roxie. I enjoy the process of becoming a woman - being beautiful and wearing lovely dresses, skirts, and earrings. Interests are running, scriptwriting, stand-up comedy and motivation.

I would love to get together with other TVs in CA - however, if I get out to your part of the country, you just may get a surprise visit. (Who says TVs don't make housecalls?) I will answer all letters - probably not immediately, but definitely before the next Tapestry appears.

Roxie Horowitz (CA-1636)

BETSY B. (N. CA) (#52)

Member: ETVC, NWGA, SAGA, Tri-Ess, RGA

Awards: DREAMS - Miss Congeniality

DWM - older TV with considerable experience. Enjoy depicting a well-dressed, dignified older woman without being "stuffy". Love parties and associating with other crossdressers. I answer correspondence.

Betsy B. (CA-1104)

CACY L. (CA) (#52)

M-F pre-op TS, 36, 130, single, advanced degree. Very passable, will soon live as a woman full-time. Would like to hear from and meet other TSs who are making the same transitions, such as combining career changes and gender reassignment.

Cacy L. (CA-1840)

PAULETTE BROWN (S. CA) (#52)

SWM hetero TV seeks correspondence with understanding female.

Paulette B. (CA-1586)

BOBBIE STARR (S. CA) (#53)

MWM, 5'4", 128 lbs, brown hair, brown eyes, with TS tendencies. Advanced degree in political science and history; working on degree in spec. education. Interests include good music, gourmet cooking, fine wines, shopping, and sewing (for myself and other TV sisters).

Bobbie Starr, P.O. Box 549, Pasadena, CA 91102

Ellen M. (CA-1408)

ELLEN MCKINNON (S.CA.) (#54)

Member: Neutral Corner

Married white male, 35, attractive and very passable. Interests: Music, sports, reading, photography, high fashion. "I have been written up in several major publications. Enjoy going out in public in all situations. Would love to meet and go out with all California sisters and to correspond with all who write. I will attempt to answer all correspondence promptly, from my sisters across the country as well."

Ellen McKinnon, Box 261326, San Diego, CA 92126

JOYCIE McGINN (CA) (#52)

Member: Tri-Ess, Shangri-La

Participant: Shangri-La, DREAM

Awards: "Miss DREAM" 1st runner-up, "Miss Congeniality".

Interests: Enjoy photo sessions, sports, sports cars, classics, shopping with TVs and TSs. Also gardening, re-decorating apartments, and auto mechanics. "Would love to hear from TVs and TSs, but must send photo. Answer all letters ASAP. Will show girls around S. CA area."

Joycie McGinn (CA-1073)

CHRISTY (CA) (55)

5'5", small build, 135 lbs., olive skin, dark hair & eyes, dress size 10/11. 39, educated professional. I enjoy running, bicycling, reading, vacationing (especially in Spanish-speaking countries), and being a woman. I love small talk and styles in clothing and grooming. "I have a very supportive and understanding wife. My children don't know , but I make a better mom than dad and everyone sees that. I'm family oriented and a very supportive, humanistic person."

Christy (CA-1839)

SHARON M. (N. CA) (#54)

SWM mostly hetero TV, late 20's, 6', 150 or so, brown hair/eyes, fresh out of the closet. Discreet, intelligent, not bad looking. Enjoys Aikido, peace movement and other liberal/radical politics, computer programming, biology, philosophy and introspection, and learning to cross-dress passably. "I'm not looking for pen pals. Very interested in dating (no smokers please) any of the following: Women (TSs OK) who are favorably disposed to TVs. Female TVs who enjoy role switching. Other TVs with only one of us cross-dressed at a time.

Sharon M. (CA-1472)

Cynthia H. (CA-1453)

CYNTHIA HOWARD (S. CA) (#55)

Member: Tri-Ess

Hetero TV with TS tendencies. Married, outgoing. Enjoys politics, photography, law, aesthetics. Loves to dress & go out & have a good time. "I want to express myself as Cynthia fully & completely and am getting more involved in our Community. Interested in correspondence & meeting TSs, TVs, & couples. We can help each other."

Cynthia Howard, Box 3392, Napa, CA 94558

MARCIA M. (S. CA) (#51)

5'8", 145, light complexion, nice figure. Enjoys soft silky female attire, especially slips, panties and nylons, polaroid and video photography. "Would like to exchange experiences and fantasies via correspondence with literate and imaginative TVs. Also desire to exchange high quality self-made photos and cassettes."

Marcia M. (CA-1454)

ALLISON O'BRIEN (N. CA) (#51)

SWM TS, 51, well educated, sensitive, discreet, stable, and living as a woman full time. Interested in correspondence and helping oth-

ers. "Finally made it working and living full time as a woman and I love it! The future looks bright. Am willing to help all and answer all promptly. Love to hear from you."

Allison O'Brien, P.O. Box 6517, Auburn, CA 95604

Ruby (CA-1928)

RUBY (S. CA) (#53)

SWM, 5'8", 136, wishes to meet GGs, F>M TSs, and TVs. Enjoy friendships, art, travel, fashions, science museums, hikes, movies, ESP, culture, and music (most types).

Ruby (CA-1928)

Donna Lynn F. (CA-1664)

DONNA LYNN FREEMAN (CA) (#52)

Member: Tri-Ess, ETVC

Participant: Holiday En Femme '87, Pajaro Dunes

MWM hetero TV, 46, 5'9", 160, size 16, enjoys good food, good friends, good conversation, computers, shopping, and all things feminine. "Lifelong CD recently out of the closet and enjoying every minute. Blessed with understanding and supportive wife. Usually passable and working to get better. Am interested in meeting other TVs for shopping and other excursions. Will answer all."

Donna Lynn Freeman (CA-1664)

STEPHANIE BERTRAND (S. CA) (#51)

SW TS-oriented hetero, 35, 5'11", 150, pretty. Enjoys music, writing, world issues, and much more. "I'm just now taking the first steps. Would love to correspond and/or meet with any TV-TS (especially pre or post-op TS) who can help with questions or just share experiences."

Stephanie Bertrand, P.O. Box 46868, Los Angeles, CA 90046

BARBARA CHAPMAN (N. CA) (#51)

Pre-op M-F TS, 5'9", 160, slight handicap (one arm). Enjoys leatherwork, thrift stores, flea markets, and swap meets. Would like to correspond with other TSs and others for friendship.

Barbara C. (CA-1560)

Pieranna D. (CA-1645)

PIERANNA DI MARTINI (S. CA) (#52)

Hetero crossdresser, 25, 5'4", 115, nonsmoker, non-drinker, independent filmmaker. "My interests run toward the artistic- filmmaking, writing, acting, drawing. I would like to correspond with TVs and understanding GGs from all over, especially those in Southern California area."

Pieranna DiMartini (CA-1645)

CHARLENE (N. CA) (#52)

Member: EVTC, RGA

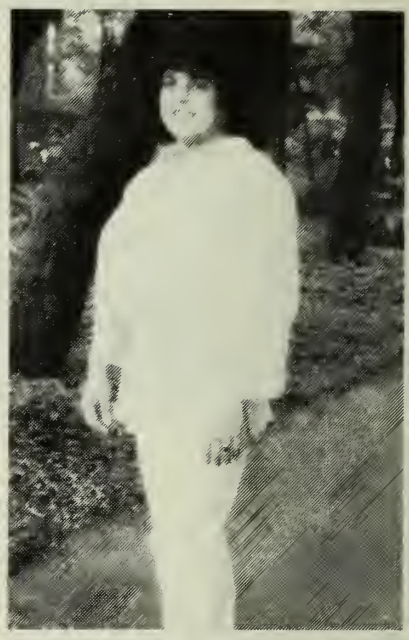
Late 30's, passable in daytime, size 14 in dresses. Interests include shopping and gourmet cooking.

Charline (CA-1601)

JESSICA LOUISE SALAZAR (CA) (#51)

TS, mid-50s, 5'6", 140, brownish black hair, brown eyes. Have just begun the TS process. Am seeking other TSs for companionship and mutual support. I enjoy most ladylike activities. Will respond to all.

J.L. Salazar (CA-1758)



Tara T. (CA-0752)

TARA TENILLE (N. CA) (#52)

Member: ETVC, Society of Janus (coordinator of Sacramento group)

Outgoing, fun-loving, demanding, very passable pre-TG, who enjoys the finer aspects of my femininity and life. Do you enjoy fine wine, good conversation, sightseeing, travel, four star restaurants, dancing, lazy afternoons by the water, and sincere friends? Then let's meet. Also enjoy meeting gentleman with class who would like to act as my escort for the above activities.

Love to travel and often visit NYC, Boston, LA, Chicago, SF, Seattle, and more. Sorry, but time limits correspondence. Would like to only hear from those who would ultimately be available to meet. Will reply to all who include a quality letter, photo, and self addressed stamped envelope.

Tara Tenille, P.O. Box 13033, Sacramento, CA 95813-3033

Karen K. (CA-0322)

KAREN K. (CA) (#52)

Member: Tri Ess, NWGA, Neutral Corner

SWM hetero TV, 45, 5'9", 182. Pleasant personality who enjoys meeting and writing other sisters. I dress en femme about every day, and I go out dressed as often as possible. I'm comfortable dressed in public, and I pass well. I have gone to restaurants, the theater, etc. dressed, and I will continue in the future because I enjoy expressing my feminine personality. My interests are photography, camping & hiking, all sports, music, reading, theater, and dressing. I also travel a great deal; and so I am able to meet a lot of sisters around the country.

Karen K. (CA-0322)

Alison D. (CA-1755)

ALISON DANIELS (CA) (#51)

CD, just starting out after decades of dreaming. 5'11", 170, 37, enjoy music, consciousness, science fiction, computers. Looking for correspondents (TV, TS, GG) leading to meetings and going out adventures; need encouragement, assistance, and friendship. Still very shy. Pasadena area.

Alison Daniels (CA-1755)

Elizabeth J. (CA-1030)

ELIZABETH N. JOHNSON (S. CA) (#56)

Pre-op M-F TS, 30's, 6', friendly but shy. Television engineer. Passable with voice, mannerisms & body frame, but in need of makeup & hair styling tips. Interests: Fanatic in fashion sales, indoor plants, sing opera (use my own soprano female voice), computers, bicycles. "Would like to start a friendship with TV's, TV's and others who are warm, friendly and sincere. Write, call, send video tape (any format), or audio cassette."

Elizabeth J. (CA-1030)

Angelique B. (CA-0578)

ANGELIQUE BARBY (S. CA) (#52)

M-F TS (not on hormones), single, very woman oriented, 5'11", 160, 41, brown hair, blue eyes.

Interests: Paleontology (esp dinosaurs), inflatable boating, playing with children, cuddling, animals, & helping people.

"I'm very spiritual & am strongly involved with the Unity Church and very much uphold their philosophy. I am also a very good & committed letter correspondent."

Angelique G. Brummell, 1001 Ballard Ave, Apt 1, Carpinteria, CA 93013

Anne B. (CA-1590)

ANNE BLACKWOOD (S. CA) (#52)

Member: CHIC

Eurasian hetero male, 34, 6', BA Dramatic Arts. Interests: Building things (furniture and clothing), writing fiction, understanding the world (politics, environment), psychology, music, science and technology. "I'm a 90's woman, egalitarian, not attached to feminine stereotypes. My yin and yang being well integrated, I am able to draw both on my masculine and feminine strengths. Interested in hearing from anyone who can write a good letter and from those in the LA area interested in going clubbing or to other cultural events."

Anne Blackwood, P.O. Box 1251, Beverly Hills, CA 90213-1251

FLO JAMES (S. CA) (#52)

6'4", 230, hetero, 43, married, educated professional, closeted, discreet. Enjoys photography, psychology, scuba diving, travel. Would like to meet similar individual going through mid-life crisis, for friendship & fun.

Flo J. (CA-1045)

JULIA K. (S. CA) (#52)

M-F GD, 43, 5'8", 175, Swedish/German. Jodo Shinshu Buddhist, in a great relationship with understanding woman. In extremely masculine & hostile public service profession. Involved in intensive neo-Reichian (Radix) therapy, electrolysis and living. 2 adult children. Interests: Personal relationships, clothing/jewelry/makeup, people, world travel, music, the fine arts, home remodeling, world peace, humanistic psychology, personal & spiritual growth, natural psychedelics & post modern shamanism... "I plan to travel & live in China & Japan in the near future. I also need to contact form M-F TS's (women) to help me with my decision making process regarding surgery or not."

Julia K. (CA-1685)

SARAH THOMSEN (N. CA) (#52)

Member: RGA

WM, 27, blonde, blue eyes. Looking for TV-TS contacts for all types, looking to further understand myself. Would like to hear from open minded women. Enjoy dressing as a young girl.

Sarah T. (CA-1727)

JESSICA MERTEN (CA) (#53)

Member: Neutral Corner

Pre-op TS; live & work full-time as female. Others say I'm very pretty and passable. Will correspond with like individuals.

Jessica Merten, Box 9475, Palm Springs, CA 92263

SUSAN E. DAGGETT (CA) (#52)

Member: Tri-Ess, Pansocial Center, Androgyny

6', brown hair, beautiful hazel eyes, 43 years young. "My life-long transsexual "battle" is finally turning and becoming open and peaceful. I enjoy personal computing, hiking, scuba diving, and being feminine!

Susan Daggett (CA-1822)

RACHEL (CA) (#52)

Professional, married, 49. "I've been TV since age 5, never really came to grips with it (always thought I could whip it) until recently -

now I know who I am and how much a part of me the "other" is.

Rachel (CA-1811)

Marlene (CA-1036)

MARLENE (CA) (#53)

Participant: Holiday En Femme '87

Awards: Tri-Ess Distinguished Service Award '87

55, 5'11, 150. Professional; divorced, "but cohabiting with an understanding lady. I dress en femme most of the time when home. I work frequently in the Tri-Ess National Office. I enjoy bicycling and tennis."

Marlene (CA-1036)

Lorraine Ellen H. (CA-1150)

LORRAINE ELLEN HALL (CA) (#53)

Member: ETVC, Tri-Ess

Participant: Holiday En Femme

"After years of suppression, I find my feminine psyche becoming ever more dominant. Serious interest in SRS. "I am conservative and enjoy being treated like a lady. Like correspondence and gossiping with others of similar feelings. Love shopping, theater, music, writing, sewing, and even housekeeping."

Lorraine Ellen Hall (CA-1150)

Vicki (CA-1925)

VICKI (CA) (#53)

Member: Tri-Ess, Powder Puff

6'2", 240, probably passable except for bulk. Love ultra-high heels; have large collection. Will respond promptly with current photo to all.

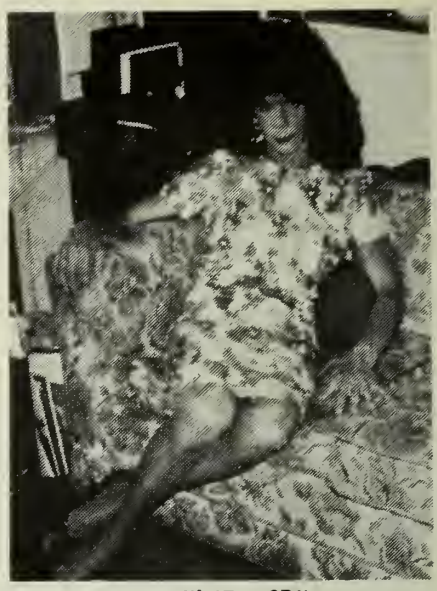
Vicki (CA-1925)

Lynne L. (CA-1684)

LYNNE LAND (S. CA) (#56)

38, 6'1", 180, communicative, single caring lady into classy, casual dress with understated elegant feminine side. Looking for TV friends for meeting/sharing here in Orange County. Serious caring realistic ladies looking to share our fem personalities/experiences will be answered.

Lynne L. (CA-1684)



Nancy W. (CA-1374)

NANCY WILSON (S. CA) (#54)

Member: Tri-Ess, Neutral Corner, ETVC

5'9", 150, dark hair & eyes. Creator of Crowning Glory Wigs for crossdressers in partnership with Mona (owner of shop).

Nancy Wilson, c/o Crowning Glory Wigs, P.O. Box 40366, San Diego, CA 92104

Janet E. (CA-1102)

JANET EDWARDS (S CA) (#54)

Member: Tri-Ess

Participant: 'Coming Together'

Hetero TV, 38, 5'9", 155, dark brown hair, musician (drummer in the 'Mr. Sister Band' which performed at 'Coming Together 1989'

and was featured in 'Ladylike'). I am passable and go just about anywhere I want with no problem. Hobbies are shopping, and movies. Looking for CDs to go out with in the LA area.

B. Knipfer, 13624 Sherman Way #279, Van Nuys, CA 91405

RITA F. (S CA) (#53)

Member: Crossroads, TransPitt, ETVC, Paradise

Participant: 'Be All'

Enjoys expressing fem self. Travels entire country. Builds racing engines, loves music and the arts. When in L.A. call.

Rita F. (CA-0600)

Laura C. (CA-0480)

LAURA R. COVINGTON (N CA) (#54)

Member: Tri-Ess

DBM, hetero, 40, 5'8", 154, attractive, sincere, friendly. Enjoys fashion, photography, movies, video, music, reading, sports, sports cars, auto racing. I would like to correspond and meet other TVs or TSs and ladies that understand. I enjoy making new friends throughout the U.S. I love sharing with others the joys of trying to look as feminine as possible.

Laura Covington, Box 10431, Oakland, CA 94610

JOAN SHELDON (N CA) (#53)

IFGE Board of Directors (Alt)

Member: ETVC (co-founder)

MWM, hetero, 60's, a pleasant dowager. Enjoys friendship of TVs & spouses who are out of the closet & proud of the fact. Also enjoys flying, sailing, a computer freque. Enjoys contact with self-accepting TVs. Sponsors TV weekend retreats at a beach community and at Lake Tahoe. Holds events 4 times a year. Purpose: social interaction & development of feminine persona & feminine deportment.

Joan S. (CA-0391)

Kitty P. (CA-1961)

UNA PERSSON (KITTY) (S CA) (#53)

Friendly, passable, sweet and flirty, at times highly energetic yet very sincere. Enjoys music, photography and various medias of artistic expression. Interested in meeting other sincere individuals, sharing experiences, going out and fun times. Will answer all correspondence.

Una Persson, P.O. Box 10118, Santa Ana, CA 92711

Donna D. (CA-1895)

DONNA DIXON (N CA) (#53)

Member: ETVC

Married TV, 33, 5'6", 150, brown hair & eyes, and loves all things femme. Living in SF Bay area. Enjoys corresponding, trading photos, fantasies, etc. Write soon!

Donna D. (CA-1895)

GLORIA B. (NE CA) (#53)

6'3", 300+, BBTV. Would like to hear from other hetero TVs in the Reno area.

Gloria B. (CA-1897)

CATHY ANN GREENE (S CA) (#52)

MWM hetero, 53, crossdressing since early teens. Loves to dress and go out on rare and wonderful occasions to shopping malls. Wife of many years recently found out. Tolerant but not supportive yet. Recently started corresponding. Enjoy the equanimity it brings.

Cathy G. (CA-1896)

JOANNA ALICE GAYLORD (S CA) (#53)

6'2", blue eyes, long auburn hair, currently opulently obese, but losing weight. After losing both parents, gaining arthritis & asthma, at least I am blessed with an understanding supportive wonderful wife, and a new year of hope.

Joanna G. (CA-2066)

LISA MAXWELL (N CA) (#53)

SWM hetero TV, 35, 5'8", 150, slim, just coming out of the closet. Enjoys fashion, reading, bicycling, sailing, shopping, integrating male and female.

Lisa M. (CA-1965)

Juanita G. (CA-1974)

JUANITA GALLO (S CA) (#53)

Member: PPOC, ETVC

Participant: 'Coming Together', Shangri La

MW TV, 5'11", 175, brown eyes, usually black hair (depends on wig), very passable, extrovert. Enjoys dressing in good fashion, going out and being a nice lady. Interested in photography, computers, piano music. Have travelled extensively and dressed up in all major foreign cities. Would like to meet or correspond with ladies with similar interests.

Juanita Gallo, P.O. Box 4204, Huntington Beach, CA 92605

Sharon M. (CA-2028)

SHARON LOUISE M. (N CA) (#54)

Member: Renaissance

5'6", 165, white hair, hazel eyes, ruddy complexion. I have been a crossdresser most of my life and am no school girl by any stretch of the imagination. (My age is my secret.) Am well read and a good conversationalist. Am a former semi-pro baseball player, a good bowler, roller skater, and dancer. Been wearing corsets since early age, but didn't dress completely until my 30's. Would love to correspond and possibly meet others in my area.

J.C. Morgan, P.O. Box 537, Yountville, CA 94599

Melissa F. (CA-2099)

MELISSA M. FOSTER (S. CA) (#54)

Member: Feminine Image, PPOC, ETVC, NWGA, Alpha Zeta, A Rose, Neutral Corner, Tri-Ess

Participant: "Coming Together"

Cute TV, 42, 5'10", 185. BS degree in engineering, USAF Reserve. I travel extensively around the world and enjoy meeting & writing other sisters. I enjoy going out and expressing my femme personality. Enjoy musci, dancing, sports. Write for several gender publications. Enjoy travelling, having fun, and being involved in activities that will help my sisters and friends learn and grow.

Melissa Foster, P.O. Box 816, Lakewood, CA 90714

Shirlee G. (CA-2088)

SHIRLEE G. (N. CA) (#54)

Member: ETVC, RGA

SWM (widower), 50's, 5'10", 220, well educated. Closeted bi-TV, dressing since age 9. Looking for friendly TVs, women, and men willing to help me pass in public. Like to dress with style and class, but need understanding friends. Hope for a little romance in the process. Will try to answer all.

Shirlee G. (CA-2088)

GARY C. (N CA) (#53)

Single Asian bi- male, 32, 5'10", 165, attractive, masculine, articulate, gentle, open minded, a little shy. An ex-NYer, ivy educated, professional. Enjoys high & pop culture, tradition vs modernity, music, architecture, gender & sexuality, sci-fi, body work, travel. I've been a reluctant romeo with GG's because I've dreamt of meeting a pretty and passable TV/TS. I seek someone intelligent, sane, elegant and sensual with whom I could share thoughts, warmth, and the support and appreciation a man and woman can have for each other. All answered; photo appreciated.

Gary C. (CA-1983)

JILLIAN S. (N CA) (#54)

Member: Tri-Ess

DWM, 22, 6', 155, straight TV stationed in Long Beach, CA. Decent looking as a guy, but haven't gotten out yet to have feedback as a woman. Love sci-fi/fantasy, Rocky Horror, comic books, beaches, dancing, shopping (passionately), and having a good time. Want to start getting out, meeting other TV/TSs for friendship.

Jillian S. (CA-2040)

TERRI CANNON (S. CA) (#54)

MWM, 5'11", 40's, well educated, sensitive, discreet, stable. Good sense of humor. Enjoys cooking, fine arts, photography (have taught classes), 'New Age' philosophy, psychology, film, tennis, golf. Due to family, I do not dress at home, but do have secure place to dress occasionally. Enjoy being supportive friend to other TV/TSs. Appreciate a natural look, warmth, honesty, humor. Long term friendships possible. All replies answered!"

Terri C. (CA-1293)

RENEE CHINQUAPIN (N. CA) (#54)

Member: ETVC

Participant: "Coming Together"

Am currenty training as a counselor and plan to work within the gender community. Am interested in networking with other counselors. Also interested in vacation exchange in So. England, France, Switzerland or Italy.

Renee Chinquapin, 200 Troll Ridge, Willits, CA 95490

WASHINGTON - OREGON - HAWAII - ALASKA

Nora Y. (AK-1425)

NORA JEAN YORK (AK) (#51)

Fun and friendly, but private type person. Strong emotional feelings and deep desires. Enjoys art, cooking, gardening. Has own computer & TV magazine collection. Would like to share my feelings and desires. Possible meeting.

Nora York, P.O. Box 230084, Anchorage, AK 99523

Sandy S. (WA-1022)

SANDY S. (WA) (#52)

Hetero WM, 5'11". Enjoys the total feminine look - heels, stockings, dresses. Also enjoys get together's and going out. Would like to meet others for going out and blending with others.

Sandy S. (WA-1022)

Stacy C. (OR-1806)

STACY CLEMENT (OR) (#52)

MWM, 35, 6', 190, out of the closet TV!

Passable, professional photographer. Correspondence and outings desired with other TV/TS's, couples. Love shopping/sightseeing "en femme", camping, fishing, and touring the great NW! Also enjoy photography, new age thought, jazz music, and intelligent conversation. Please write soon; I'll respond.

Stacy Clement, 924 SW 16th AVE. #403, Portland, OR 97205

PRISCILLA LAVISH (OR) (#52)

Member: NWGA

5'10", 155, blue eyes, playful, a little flirty, attractive, a little flashy. Enjoys jazz, dinners out, process oriented (client centered) psychology, personal growth, integration of self. Wants to move towards performing. Needs to study dance & movement more.

Priscilla Lavish, P.O. Box 23021, Eugene, OR 97402-0424

JENNIFER SHALOAM (WA) (#52)

Member: Salmacis

Pre-op TS, 5'10", 160, 33, student.dent.

Interests: Working in media for gender spectrum issues. Taking steps and serving our sisterhood. I am a feminist TS who believes it's time for the graduates to take over the caretaker's roles, rendering service to self, our subculture, and humanity.

Ms Jennifer Shaloam, (address unknown)

Mary G. (WA-1926)

MARY GIBBONS (WA) (#52)

Member: Emerald City, NWGA

Participant: Tri-Ess Holidays, Fantasia Fair '88

6'0", 160, happily married, daughter in college. Enjoy plays, concerts, and cultural events, reading, music of all kinds. Am learning about synthesizers. NOT interested in hunting, football, rebuilding old cars, or (for that matter) knitting. "I am interested in presenting myself as a complete woman; not particularly in one aspect over another. Since coming out five years ago, I have done far more than I ever dreamed possible in my fantasies."

Mary Gibbons, Box 1151, Mercer Island, WA 98040

ELLEN SUMMERS (OR) (#53)

IFGE Board of Directors, Vice-Chrprsn Board of Directors, Chrprsn Nominations Committee.

Member: NWGA, ETVC, Emerald City

Awards: "DREAM" Grand Dame '83

Interests: Travel ad big band era music - have large collection of '40's, '50's, and '60's recordings. Late 50's, married with three children, all know of Ellen and understand. "I will answer all letters addressed to me or to NWGA".

Ellen S., c/o NWGA, Box 4928, Portland, OR 92708-4928

Sarah W. (WA-2027)

SARAH WALL (WA) (#53)

DWM hetero TV, 6', 180. Dark hair, blue eyes; size 18, professional. Enjoys photography, back packing, classical music, reading, cooking, sewing, travel. I am newly out of the closet and

would like to form friendships in the Northwest and world-wide. Can travel and entertain. All answered. Photo appreciated.

Sarah Wall, P.O. Box 766, Issaquah, WA 98027

Paula S. (WA-1973)

PAULA S. (WA) (#53)

Hetero crossdresser, tall, slender, early 40's, long-time CD. Educated, professional with interests in photography, music, model trains and femininity. Would like to meet other CDs in Seattle area.

Paula S. (WA-1973)

Sally R. (WA-1292)

SALLY RAY (WA) (#54)

Member: NWGA, Emerald City

MWM, 34, 5'8", 165, blue eyes, professional. I am a small town girl that makes it to the "big city" (Portland or Seattle) 5 or 6 times a year for 3-day weekends. I pass well day or night and love to shop and party. I have experienced the thrill of many "firsts" in the last 2 years, and now want to concentrate on developing my feminine interests.

Sally Ray, P.O. Box 1383, Walla Walla, WA 99362

Kyndel M. (AK-2087)

KYNDEL FAY MERCEDES (AK) (#54)

Member: Berdache Society (Chrprsn & IFGE Rep)

Warm, expressive trangendered person enjoying the process of being and becoming Kyndel Fay. Married with a life partner who is most supportive. Interests: Psychology, anthropology, transcendental metaphysics, honest sharing friendship, developing my femininity, and hearing from you. Not much is clear, but this much is certain, I'm glad I'm out. Will answer all who write.

Kyndel Fay Mercedes, Box 113162, Anchorage, AK 99511

JUDY OSBORNE (WA) (#52)

Participant: Fantasia Fair 1987; Seattle and Portland meetings.

5'11, 155, mostly closeted for now. "Previously troubled daughter now living back at home and doing well at last. I miss the sisters a lot and look forward to rejoining their company."

Judy Osborne, Box 19394, Seattle, WA 98109

MICHELLE W. (WA) (#53)

Wife of a crossdresser for 17 years. Have known of his desires for a relatively short time. Need to correspond with other wives for information and support.

Michelle W. (WA-1959)

JACKALYN MCNEAL (WA) (#53)

Pre-op TS, 29, 5'11", 157, blonde, blue eyes. Looking to write/talk and mingle with others who share some of the same things I have gone through since I was 11 years old.

Jackalyn Mc. (WA-1986)

JEAN G. (WA) (#54)

WM, 5'11", 175. Enjoys feminine underwear all the time, dress up completely, but only in private on occasion. Non-supportive wife, although she knows. Will answer all letters.

Jean G. (WA-1331)

MELISSA P. (WA) (#53)

MWM TV, 5'10", 190, 55, non-supportive wife. Enjoys sewing, art, dancing square & round, woodworking. Would like to hear from TVs just coming out.

Melissa P. (WA-2102)

CANADA

Micheline J. (CAN-0560)

MICHELINE JOHNSON (ON CAN) (#54)

Member: FACT-Ottawa

Gentle, sensitive, affection-starved woman (white pre-op M-F TS, born 1930's, hormones since 1979) seeking romantic relationship with caring man, correspondence or in person, preferably in eastern Canada or northeastern U.S. I would be attracted to non-smoking, intellectually inclined, articulate special person interested in the arts, travel, romance, dancing, hugging, dinners by candle-light. Write with photo, phone number to:

Micheline Johnson, P.O. Box 9155, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1G 3T9

PAT MARTIN (ON CAN) (#51)

Participant: Guest of "Transformation" Hotel, UK.

MWM hetero TV, 58, 5'11", 175. Enjoy ballroom dancing, sailing, bridge, cooking, ballet, opera, symphony, and DIY. Wife does not approve but frequent travel provides welcome opportunities as a conservative cross-dresser. Hope to get out of the closet someday.

Pat Martin (CAN-1762)

Linda J. (CAN-0422)

LINDA JENSEN (ON CAN) (#52)

Now single, early 40's, tall, medium build, travel a fair bit, enjoy sports, video, photography, and cross-dressing. Will be free to travel from summer '89 to summer '90. Would like to meet other TVs and share experiences.

Linda Jensen, Box 15855, Stn. F, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K2C-3S7

Mary Lou H. (CAN-0440)

MARY LOU H. (AL CAN) (#54)

Member: Tri Ess, ETVC, NWGA

Participant: Fantasia Fair, Poconos W/E, Tri Ess Holiday, Shangri La, 'Be All'

SWM hetero TV, retired, 5'8", size 12, musician, loves concerts, drama, nature, museums, traveling. Stylish dresser with fine wardrobe. Will meet hetero TVs and understanding girls/ladies. I love correspondence and exchange of pictures. Will answer all.

Mary Lou H. (CAN-0440)

CAROLYN ALEXANDER (ON CAN) (#53)

I'm a 40-something attractive and sophisticated bi WMM CD, well and truly educated with a sensuous, caring attitude. I pass easily and love to be totally feminine. Looking for intimate friendship with readers having similar make-up who wish to meet or correspond.

Carolyn Alexander, Box 7115, Vanier PO, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1L 8E3

Julie F. (CAN-1665)

JULIE FASHIONS (BC-CAN) (#51)

5'9", 164, 42, blue eyes, trim figure. Works publicly as professional male, lives privately as affectionate female. Loves clothes, conversation, candies and cuddles. Cherishes relationships with committed TVs and TSs. A warm welcome to all femmes. Write soon: friendships foster femininity.

Julie Fashions (CAN-1665)

Dianne V. (CAN-2017)

DIANNE VERLAINE (QUE) (#53)

SWM hetero TV, 26, 5'10", 140, still in closet. Interests: Reading, writing & collecting books. Although I have been crossdressing since childhood I am only now beginning to come to terms with my TV feelings. Would very much like to share my thoughts, experiences, & dreams with others. Promise to answer all.

Dianne Verlaine, P.O. Box 608, N.D.G. Post Office, Montreal, QUE H4A 3R1 CANADA

YVETTE DUCHARME (QUE CAN) (#52)

Member, Tri-Ess

Divorced, white, male, hetero TV, 47, 5'11", 195 lbs. Pleasant personality. University formation. Has travelled in many countries. Enjoys everything feminine. Interests: Camping, shooting, mechanical things, dressing, travelling, meeting with sisters TV/TS, corresponding, going out while dressed. "I am very interested in makeup and looking feminine. My personality type is around 40, classical look, (lady lawyer type) very relaxed, open to discussions. I am working hard to become more feminine through weight loss, electrolysis, (hormones?), etc. I came out only two years ago, have been dressing since age 12. I now live alone."

Yvette D. (CAN-1632)

ALLISON JENNIFER BRENT (AL CAN) (#52)

Member: Tri-Ess

Hetero CD, 175, 62. Married to a wonderful gal who is aware of CD interests but prefers to remain uninvolved. Interests include music of the big band era, canoeing, walking, reading and writing to sisters. "But more than anything else, I enjoy being Allison! I have never ventured forth en femme, but am looking forward to doing so."

Allison J. Brent (CAN-1656)

SARAH GEDDIS (AL CAN) (#53)

Hetero TV, 36, married to an understanding and terrific and understanding lady. Interests: photography, camping, computers, people. Member Tri-Ess. Several of us have formed a club for hetero CDs in Calgary, Alberta. Anyone interested contact:

Phi Sigma, Box 2546, Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada T1A 8G8.

LOUISE M. (BC CAN) (#53)

Member: Tri-Ess

SWM, TV, 135, well-educated, attractive and neat, very fit 60-ish. Enjoy downhill and cross-country skiing, cycling, golf, music (symphonic to "soul"), theatre, good books, everything feminine, and making the most of each passing day. I enjoy corresponding with my sisters and am a conscientious correspondent. I dress very frequently at home and love going out as my other self. I feel relaxed and confident as a woman. I will be making every effort to attend as many functions as possible to meet my sisters and share our femininity.

Louise M. (CAN-1787)

BONNIE SMITH (NB-CAN) (#52)

TV, 5'9", 34, 150. Enjoy all aspects of crossdressing, especially lingerie & corseting. "I would like to correspond with and meet other TVs or TSs in the Fredrickton area. All replies answered."

Bonnie Smith (CAN-1958)

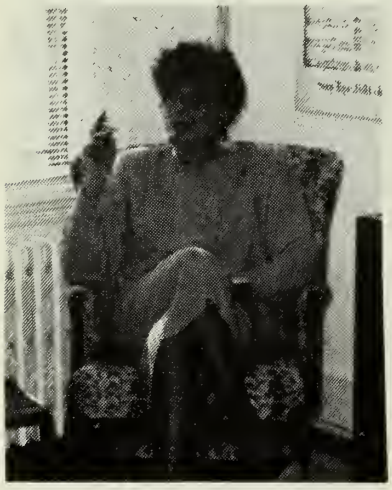
ROBYN H. (ON) (#53)

Member: Tri-Ess

35, 5'8", 157, brunette, single, self employed. Have crossdressed since childhood. Prefer a contemporary look to a flashy look. Like to venture outside at night when possible. Have great legs. Need understanding girlfriend; but then, who doesn't?

R. Howe, Box 43, St Catharines, ON L2R 6R4 CANADA

RUTH SCHOFIELD (ON) (#53)
Member: FACT-Toronto
5'8", 158, blonde, blue eyes. Wife supportive & understanding. Love to dress in evening wear, heels, nylons, corsets. Read a lot, interested in novels about enforced CD, but can't find any. Needs help coming out and passing in public.
Ruth S. (CAN-1917)



Lisa S. (CAN-1909)

LISA DANIELLE S. (ON) (#53)
Member: TV-Guys, GIC Toronto
35, 5'11", 170, brown hair, blue eyes, single TV all my life. Enjoy music, art, theatre, long walks, good conversation, candlelight dinners, going out as often as possible. Like to meet other TVs or understanding person for companionship. Can travel and entertain.
L.D. Stroud, P.O. Box 1258 Sta. "A", Hamilton, ON L8N 4B4 CANADA

ENGLAND

CELIA SCOTT-SHEPARD
Member: Beaumont Society
Widower, 5'9", 152. Occasional TV from age 4 to partner's death. Now getting more deeply involved. Interested especially in language and music. Would like to receive audio tapes in exchange for my "first and second voices".
Celia S. (ENG-1904)

ASIA

ROSEMARY MARYON LANGTON (HK) (#51)
Member: Beaumont Society
MWM, 5'8, 56, lifelong TV. Enjoy travel, dress alterations and sewing, corresponding and meeting with TVs in Hong Kong and elsewhere. "I am a totally dedicated TV and love it. I can and do pass easily. My wife and grown-up children know and accept Rosemary. I love going out en femme, having my own hair set, and (since I no longer have facial hair) going to beauty salons." "I enjoy role playing and am fascinated by Victorian clothing, though I have had little experience. I have an extensive normal wardrobe as well as maid, little girl, maternity, and Japanese outfits." "I would like to correspond with and possibly meet TVs everywhere as I do travel all over the world, usually without notice."
Rosemary Langton, G.P.O. Box 9171, Hong Kong (HK-1792)

Rosemary L. (Hong Kong-1792)

Valerie V. (MA-0273)

Paula J. (OK-1620)

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The Tapestry, published by IFGE, is intended to be a source of up-to-date information, of support, and a communications medium and unifying factor for the crossdressing/transsexual community, those persons affected by, and those serving that Community.

All information given on this form is confidential, and no names and addresses are given to others. Any information you give is helpful, but not required.

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1.) To provide a means of introduction, outreach, and communication for members of the International Foundation for Gender Education. (General Subscribers and Supporting Members are considered members of I.F.G.E.)
2.) To provide non-members with a source of support and communication.
3.) To provide the general public with a better understanding of the nature of the people who are members of the Crossdressing/Transsexual community.

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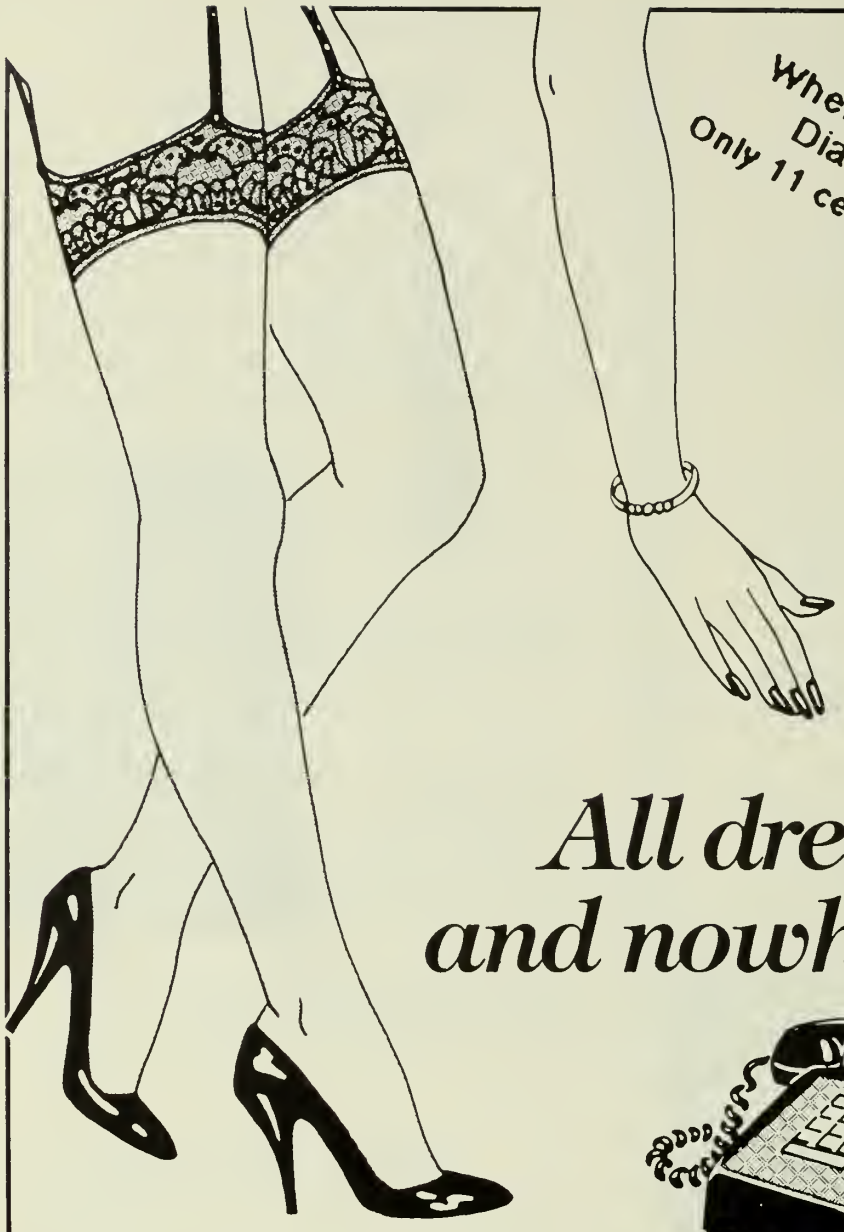

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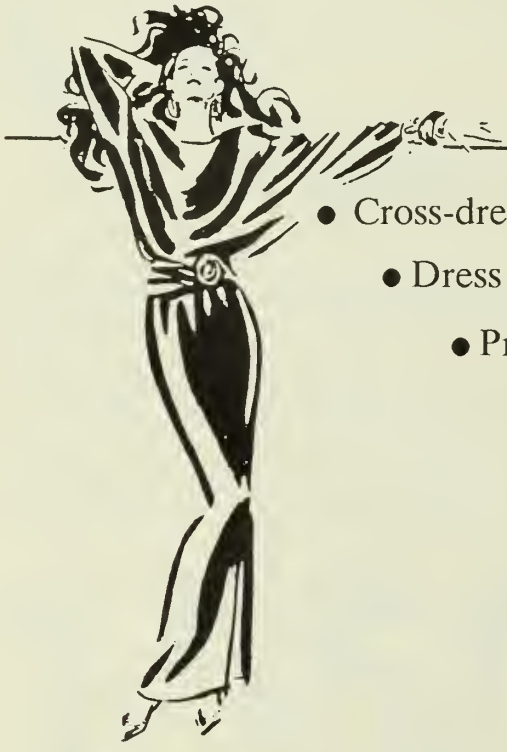

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